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THE OLD RECTORY CARE HOME, WENVOE

Feature on Page 26



Bonus point win sets up clash at Twickenham

BACK PAGE COMMENT by DON JOHN

Why Bridgend dad Phil is gearing up for 160-mile rowing challenge!



Phil Austin gets down to some serious training in his garage.

BUSINESSMAN Phil Austin, from Bridgend, will be staging a five-day marathon rowing and running session (using rowing and cross-training machines in his own garage) in a bid to raise funds and awareness for heart charity, Cardiac Risk in the Young (CRY).

On Monday (September 21), Phil embarked on the 160-mile challenge – in memory of three of his wife Elaine's close relatives, who tragically all died at a young age from previously undiagnosed heart conditions.

Thirty years ago, in March 1985, Elaine's 22-year-old cousin, Keith, stepped out of a hot bath and fatally collapsed while his young wife and baby son were downstairs.

In 1993, Elaine's brother, Howard English, collapsed and died while playing rugby, aged just 32. One of Howard's team mates – and close friend – was the broadcaster John Inverdale, who has since become a patron and loyal supporter of CRY.

Howard's wife Stephanie (who had three young children under the age of five at the time of his sudden death) later remarried and had two further children with her husband, Rupert.

But, 11 years on, her eldest son, Sebastian (in tragically similar circumstances to his late father), also died without warning while playing rugby. He was aged just 15.

It was eventually discovered that both

Howard and Sebastian died from a genetic condition known as ARVC or arrhythmogenic right ventricular cardiomyopathy. Had screening and expert pathology been available, as it is today, Sebastian's death may well have been avoided.

While Howard was originally from Wales, Stephanie and her family have lived in the Surrey town of Haslemere for many years – making it the obvious destination for the gruelling, 'virtual' row.

Elaine says: "Our family has been affected so cruelly by young sudden cardiac death over the years, that when Phil decided on this 'crazy' fundraising event, he just knew that we wanted to do it for CRY."

"The deaths of Howard and Sebastian were absolutely devastating – but I have also lost a cousin to ARVC and believe that other family members, who were reported to have died at a young age, may also have had the same hereditary condition long before it was even known of."

"We come from a big family and everyone – children, siblings, nieces and nephews – have now been tested for ARVC. While for the moment it seems that most of our family are 'clear' it will always be a worry that hangs over me."

"It is so tragic that it took the deaths of both Howard and Sebastian for that connection to be made and for the eventual recognition that my brother's sudden death was not just a 'one off' incident."

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 8)



Rockabilly descended on Porthcawl last weekend, and audiences were entertained by bands and much more - SEE MORE PICTURES ON PAGE 9.

Bridgend man (21) is jailed for 10 months

by AJ SICLUNA

WHILE on bail for attacking a shopkeeper and theft, a young man and another person broke into a house and "ransacked" it, Cardiff Crown Court heard.

Two televisions and a games console worth £1,090 were stolen. To his credit, a few days later, 21-year-old Jay Curnock gave himself up to the police and said all the property had been sold, said prosecutor Jeffrey Jones.

Curnock, who had lived in Charles Street, Bridgend, but is currently of no fixed address, was jailed for 10 months.

He admitted charges of assault, theft and burglary.

Judge Robin Rowland told him: "You targeted the home of people you knew were on holiday."

"The crime would not have been solved but for your honesty."

Mr Jones said that on August 8, the defendant and a friend went to a Spar store in Bridgend and stole two packs

of lager worth £20. They escaped through the rear of the shop, damaging a fire door in the process.

Four hours later, said Mr Jones, Curnock and the other man approached the shopkeeper Kawal Singh, who was talking to customers outside his Premier store in Aberkenfig.

The other man spat in Mr Singh's face and the defendant, spoiling for a fight, shouted: "Come on, I'll take on all of you."

Mr Singh picked up a pole to frighten off the pair, at which point Curnock punched him in the face, causing him to suffer a cut lip.

"His mouth filled with blood, and he was stunned and disoriented," said Mr Jones.

The police were called and they noticed Curnock was drunk. He later said he could remember nothing.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 8)

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YOUR CHANCE TO SHARE COMMUNITY NEWS

Annual concert CŌR Merched Cwm Llynfi (Llynfi Valley Ladies Choir) holds its annual concert tomorrow evening Friday, September 25 in Maesteg Town Hall, at 7pm.

The compère will be TV presenter Dr Rhys Jones.

Musical director Paul Deenik will be assisted by accompanist Laura Deenik and guest soloist is tenor Elgan Llyr Thomas, from north Wales.

He has been a winner in both the Welsh National and Urdd Eisteddfodau. It promises to be a great evening's entertainment.

The choir welcomes new members from the Bridgend area, and rehearses on Wednesday evenings at the Catholic church Our Lady and St Patrick, Monica Street, Maesteg at 7pm.

Flower festival

MEMBERS of the St Theodore's Church, Kenfig Hill are arranging a flower festival from September 25 – 27 and the church will be open from 10am to 4.30pm this Friday and Saturday and 11.30am to 5.30pm on Sunday, to view displays based around West End and Broadway musicals.

The weekend will also offer a feast of music, with young people giving piano recitals each day. On Friday evening there will be a gala concert with Kenfig Hill and District Male Voice Choir and Crescendo Youth Choir (tickets £6).

For something completely, on Saturday evening there is a 'Singalong-a-Sound of Music' cinema evening at 7pm (tickets priced £4).

The weekend closes with a Songs of Praise at 6pm on Sunday, September 27.

Tickets for the Friday and Saturday evenings' performances will be available from church members, Theo's Charity Shop, Bridge Street, Kenfig Hill, on 01656 741354 or 01656 665547.

The Cancer Research UK charity will benefit from a quiz night being held at the Harlequin RF club, Maesteg next Thursday September 24 at 7.30pm; everyone welcome.

Musical treat
MAESTEG Gleemen male voice choir will join in next week when Porthcawl stages the Elvis Presley Festival. It will be taking part in the Elvis gospel concert next Sunday at 12 noon, in the Grand Pavilion, Porthcawl.

On Saturday, October 10 the choir is holding its annual concert in

Maesteg town hall, when the compère for the evening will be BBC presenter Beverley Humphreys and the guest soloist international star Rebecca Evans.

Tickets £10, available from any chorister or Maesteg town hall box office.

Pyle

events
ST JAMES Church, Pyle is holding a series of open day events over the weekend of September 25 – 27 and on Friday September 25 local schools are visiting the church during the day.

In the evening, there will be a concert with the choir Sounds Familiar from Maesteg at 7pm, which will include a finger buffet and a glass of wine for £5; tickets obtainable from Linda on 01656 742112.

Saturday, September 26 between 10am and 4pm the public are invited to view local parish records; and the highlight is to climb the bell tower and look down on the surrounding area.

During the day, there will be a series of competitions and refreshments will be available.

On Sunday, September 27, the church will be open from 10am to 4pm, with a harvest festival service at 11am.

NORTH BRIDGEND NEWS

A message for all readers in the north of Bridgend who would like to have items included in the community news columns of THE GEM:

If you wish to submit reports on any social activity in this region, please contact me.

I am very approachable and will endeavour to include every newsworthy subject.

Contact details: **CLIVE MITCHELL**

1 Tyn-Y-Coed Close, Sarn, Bridgend CF32 9NQ

TEL: 01656 725399

email: tyncoed1@yahoo.co.uk



Tondu primary school

THE following classes will have PE or games lessons: Mrs Jones and Mrs Richards (nursery) Thursday; Mrs Morgan (Cynffig) Tuesday and Thursday; Mrs Woolls (Ewenni) Monday and Thursday; Mrs Pugh (Garw) Thursday; Mr Lewis (Llynfi) Friday; Miss Davies (Ogwr) Wednesday; Mrs Lucas (Rhondda) Thursday; Mrs Russell (Taf) Wednesday; Mrs James (Tawe) Friday; Miss Mahoney (Usk) Thursday.

Nursery classes are to wear jogging bottoms and trainers to school on those days, and the other classes are to bring PE kit into school to change into on the required days.

Parents are invited by Miss Davies's class (Dosbarth) today (Thursday, September 24); assembly at 10.20am.

The school is supporting the Bridgend Foodbank in its harvest appeal, and welcomes donations of tinned fruit and vegetables, instant mash, tinned fish, instant coffee etc. Donations need to be brought to school on September 24.

Date change

FRIENDS of Tyn Y Coed Surgery, Sarn have announced that the ladies' evening due to be held at Sarn Lifelong learning centre on September 9, owing to unforeseen circumstances, will be held on October 14 from 7pm to 9.30pm.

Entry £2 includes a glass of wine or soft drink; £2 per mini treatment.

Charity coffee

MACMILLAN Cancer Support will benefit when members of Aberkenfig and District United Churches hold a coffee morning in support of the charity at Nazareth Baptist Chapel on Friday, September 25

from 10.30am to 12 noon.

Cefn Cribwr's new parent and friends association is also taking part in the World's Biggest Coffee Morning at the school, from 9.30am to 11.30am and all members of the community are welcome.

The coffee morning is Macmillan's biggest fundraising event with every penny raised donated to the charity.

Reading groups

TO tempt readers into trying out new titles and authors, a new group of parents and carers meet on the first Monday of every month at 5pm; there will also be a night owl reading group on the third Thursday at 7pm.

Young readers can enjoy the monthly junior reading groups, which will introduce children aged eight to 12 to the latest authors and novels on the last Tuesday of the month at 5pm; all

groups meet in Pyle library.

Tondu

Ironworks
I WAS surprised to see a notice outside the heritage site this week stating that the site is for sale.

When I lived in Tondu, the Welsh Government spent millions on renovating and adding buildings on this site, which also included a BMX cycle track for the enthusiasts.

The site is beginning to look uncared for and new buildings dilapidated. The public will lose this marvellous facility unless they register their concerns.

Gardening Club

CEFN Cribwr Gardening Club is organising a coach trip to the RHS Malvern autumn show next Sunday (September 27), the coach will depart outside Cefn Social Club (Legion) at 8.30am. The cost is £5 members, £10 non-members, plus the admission charge to the show.

There are still seats available; anyone interested can telephone Tracy on 01656 743410.

Heroes charity

YET another successful evening of entertainment took place at the Green Hall, Cefn Cribwr, to raise funds for the

Help For Heroes charity.

It commenced with an opening address by Cefn resident WO2 Dave Young, currently serving with 40 Commando Royal Marines. He spoke about first-hand experience of a colleague who had benefited from the charity and of how grateful he was to the organisers of the night's event in attempting to raise funds for such a worthy cause.

There were several other service personnel in the audience, including another Cefn resident, RAF Sergeant Jonny Powell.

The entertainment included Ieuan Jones, concert pianist and student at Bridgend College and the Bois Afan Male Voice Choir, accompanied by musical director Wendy Murphy.

The evening was concluded with a rousing performance by the Pencoeed Silver Band, conducted by Clive Adams, who himself served in the RAF for over 30 years.

The event was well attended, with local residents and businesses contributing to the raffle. A magnificent £325 was raised for this worthy charity.

The organiser, Mr Martin Goudge, thanked everyone who had volunteered their time and talent to enable the event a success.

Mari brings the Welsh connection vividly to life with historical novel

THE Tudor dynasty has never been higher-profile than it is at the moment – as the result of a series of high profile books and films – but Mari Griffith is looking to tell the world of the Welsh connection!

Mari's new historical fiction book, *The Root of the Tudor Rose* focuses on the life of Catherine de Valois – the wife of Henry V – and in particular her relationship after Henry's death with a young Welshman, Owen Tudor.

There were six children from that relationship, the Tudors would become the rivals of the Plantagenets, and her grandson would become Henry VII. There is even a connection to Owain Glyndwr, who was Owen Tudor's great-uncle.

For Mari Griffith, writing a novel is a new departure after a life spent in music and TV here in Wales.

GEM readers with long memories may recall a BBC Wales show *Poems and Pints* (1972 to 1978), presented by Max Boyce and Ryan Davies.

Mari, who lives in Llantwit Major, was a regular guest on the show, reading poetry or singing folk songs. Ever since then, she has been associated with the BBC, either presenting or appearing in a wide variety of TV and radio programmes.

Mari told THE GEM: "The Welsh played a great part in 15th century English history, and I wanted more people to know that."

She was born and brought up in Maesteg, went



AUTHOR MARI GRIFFITH.

to Maesteg Grammar School, and then to Cardiff University. Folk music was her passion, and that led to work with the BBC.

At one time, she was dividing her time between London and Cardiff, producing and appearing in schools' programmes, music series and combining

that with presenting work. It was, she says, a "very busy time". Eventually, she settled in Cardiff with BBC Wales, and her continued involvement has seen her associated with putting on *The Cardiff Singer of the Year* and also Children In Need.

However, in 2007 she retired, settled in Llantwit Major and set about writing. She said: "The internet is a massive research tool for writers these days, and The Oxford Dictionary of National Biography is a wonderful resource."

The story of Catherine de Valois has, says Mari, been told a number of times, but the Welsh connection has always been underplayed.

She hopes that this book will redress that balance.

She is also grateful for the guidance of Bernard Knight, the pathologist and crime writer, who said: 'A stunning first novel...this new treatment of Catherine de Valois' story will be a delight to lovers of historical fiction.'

Alison Weir, bestselling author of 'The Six Wives of Henry VIII' said: 'Immensely readable and compelling... Highly recommended!'

Mari will be making a personal appearance at Nickelby's bookstore in Llantwit Major on Wednesday, September 30, at 7pm, where she will be talking about the book and answering questions.

Entrance to the event is free, but numbers are limited, so anyone interested should contact

Nickelby's on 01446 795166 to arrange to collect a ticket.

PHILIP IRWIN

St Hilary fruit foragers' sale

THE St Hilary foragers have been out and about in the last few weeks collecting the fruits of the village.

As a result, on Wednesday, September 30, there will be a sale of produce (chumey, fruit pies, crumbles etc.) in the village hall between 10am and 12 noon. If anyone has any surplus fruit or vegetables to donate, or to make something to sell, contact Monicamdennis.wales@gmail.com or 07811 159800.

Proceeds from the sale will be donated to the village hall.

HIGH TIDE TIMES

(UNTIL OCTOBER 1)

The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary.

For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20 – 25 minutes later.

DATE	Time	Ht	Time	Ht
	AM	M	PM	M
24 Thur	03.17	7.8	15.57	8.3
25 Fri	04.33	8.4	16.59	9.1
26 Sat	05.28	9.4	17.56	9.9
27 Sun	06.20	10.0	18.43	10.5
28 Mon	07.11	10.6	19.27	10.9
29 Tues	07.53	10.8	20.14	11.1
30 Wed	08.36	10.9	20.58	10.8
01 Thur	09.19	10.5	21.42	10.4

While THE GEM makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should check with a tide table specific to their location.

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FAMILY'S TRIBUTE TO MAN WHO BECAME AN AUTHOR AT AGE OF 90

THE family of Horace Drake, who died suddenly at his home in Bridgend during the summer, have paid tribute to a man who became a first-time author at the age of 90.

Mr Drake was born in Aberkenfig and worked all his life on the railways.

His sisters, Lydia Hopkin and Bette Wilson, paid the following tribute: "Horace was six years old when Lydia was born, and 12 when Bette arrived, but despite the age gap, he was always our big brother.

"When he was about to sit the

scholarship exam for entrance to Bridgend Grammar School for Boys, he and another boy had identical marks. To his dismay, there was only one place offered, and our parents were angry when that place went to the other boy.

"Nevertheless, he overcame that hurdle and, after the war, he married Gwyneth. After a long and happy marriage, Gwyneth fell victim to Alzheimer's, and it was after her sad death that he sat down and wrote, in long hand, his life story, entitled *Once Upon a Time in Aberkenfig*.

"He dedicated this work to Gwyneth, and the proceeds of

sales of the book were donated to the Alzheimer's Society, for research into the disease.

"He received a citizenship award from the Mayor of Bridgend county borough, and this prompted an extra surge in sales, and this time the proceeds were donated to Gwyneth Poacher, at the Sandville Self-Help Centre.

"We will miss his 7pm 'checking up' calls to both of us - every evening - until his sudden death on June 9. He would always end those calls by saying 'Au Revoir' - and that phrase will always remind us of our brother Horace."



HORACE DRAKE.

New play features author of 'The Railway Children'

EDITH NESBIT - author of the famous children's book *The Railway Children* - makes an appearance at Porthcawl's Grand Pavilion on September 30 in a new play by Derek Webb.



Author Edith Nesbit.

Called *The Railway Children Lady*, the part of Edith Nesbit is brought vividly to the stage by Pembroke-based actress Eloise Williams, who has dozens of TV and stage appearances to her credit, including playing Dylan Thomas' wife Caitlin, Natasha in *Three Sisters* and Gertrude in *Hamlet*.

Prolific novelist and poet, and co-founder of the Fabian Society with her husband Hubert Bland, Edith Nesbit was to the world at large a figure of conventional if progressive tastes.

The contrast between public image - author of lyrical poetry and

children's stories - and the private, often outlandish individual, makes the story of Edith Nesbit fascinating drama. "She was an extraordinary woman," says Webb, "and her life makes compulsive drama. The more I discovered about her, the more captivated I was by her story and I'm sure audiences will be too."

The Railway Children Lady is at The Grand Pavilion, Porthcawl at 7.30pm as part of a ten-venue tour of south and west Wales. Tickets available on 01656 815995.

Talented young musician scoops choir's award

EACH year, Porthcawl male choir invites young people, resident in Porthcawl and district, to apply for the Dilwyn Evans award.

To be considered, applicants must have been accepted by a college or university to study for a recognised higher qualification in music; this is not restricted to voice only but also includes musical instruments.

The successful candidate is presented with a certificate and cheque for £250 to help in the purchase of books. The award is named in memory of a long-serving member of the choir's bass section, who in his will, left a sum of money to the choir and it was decided that part of that bequest be allocated to establish this award.

This year, the winner

of the award is Thomas Phillips, who plays a range of musical instruments that include tenor saxophone, double bass and piano.

Thomas, who attended Porthcawl Comprehensive School and is a member of the National Youth Wind Orchestra of Wales will study music and French at Cardiff University.

He is pictured here receiving the certificate and cheque from Roy Bowen, chairman of the choir.

The choir's annual concert, featuring TV stars Richard and Adam, took place at the Grand Pavilion on Saturday, September 5 and was a resounding success. It was a total sell-out and the audience were most appreciative of both the choir and guest artists, the talented operatic finalists of the *Britain's Got Talent* TV show.

Their performing on the Grand Pavilion stage of a varied and popular range of operatic pieces showed how deserving these two brothers from Anglesey were of that accolade.

A number of new members of the choir were on stage at the Grand Pavilion for the first time, although one

or two had won their spurs at the Welsh Association of Male Choirs (WAMC) massed male voice choir concert in London's Royal Albert Hall in May.

On the night the choir's most ambitious piece was Bizet's *Pearl Fishers*, while the rest of the repertoire was composed of a variety of both old and new songs, including the lively *Rhythm Of Life* and the quieter rendering of *What a Wonderful World*.

As ever, we are grateful to our musical team of Mair Jones, our hard working and popular musical director, supported by accompanists Richard Davis and Beryl Cullen, who all worked so hard rehearsing us for this concert.

JOHN WILLIAMS

Bryn Celyn's Hug Day and coffee event

SPECIALIST care provider, Bryn Celyn in Maesteg, will have a back-to-school themed day at the home on Friday, September 25 (11am-3pm) to celebrate Hug Day and the World's Biggest Coffee Morning.

Hug Day is an annual, company-wide event which encourages physical interaction between residents, family and team members to celebrate the comfort and happiness that human contact can bring.

This year, the home will be dressing up as teachers and school children and selling

baked goods for the Macmillan cancer charity.

At 11.30am, they will encourage residents and visitors to the coffee morning to take part in a group hug. There will be school-based activities and games throughout the morning.

The home will be decorated with old photographs of the residents in their school days to encourage reminiscence.

At 2.30pm, a professional singer will be arriving to entertain the residents and visitors to the home.

The local Ysgol Cynwyd Sant Primary School will also be attending.

Local author to hold a writing workshop in Pencoed library

LOCAL author Laura Foakes, who wrote *The Liars' and Fibbers' Academy* and winner of the South Wales Short Story Competition 2012, will hold a creative writing workshop at Pencoed library next month.

Writing enthusiasts can enjoy taking part in interactive writing exercises while they learn more about creating interesting characters and catchy openings at the session on October 2 at 5pm.

Anyone interested in writing will be able to get advice on how to get noticed by a publisher, and receive tips on successful writing.

Children's writer Laura said: "The session at Pencoed Library will help you dust down your imagination and return to the childhood world of kneecaps, parents, and seemingly endless rules.

"You may learn something, you'll probably have fun, or you just might write the opening lines of the next children's classic. All you need is an open mind and a pen!"

Cabinet member for adult social care, health and wellbeing, Coun Phil White, said: "The

creative writing workshop has been arranged by the library and information service to encourage people who love literature to start up or continue with writing.

"Whether you are looking to get tips on writing for your children or grandchildren, or would love to become a published author, this session may give you some inspiration and ideas for your own work."



Author Laura Foakes after winning the South Wales Short Story competition in 2012.

BRIDGEND COURSES



BRIDGEND Communities First is offering autumn learning courses, including manual handling, willow weaving, play work, introduction to care sector, first aid, paediatric first aid, health and safety, food safety.

For details, telephone 01656 643514, or visit www.commfirstbridgend.co.uk.

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New fostering website

A NEW website to encourage people to find out more about fostering, has been launched by Bridgend County Borough Council at www.bridgendfostercare.wales.

The site also includes a list of frequently asked questions and dispels myths to help people find out if they are able to foster.

'TOUR DE PORTHCAWL' SEES CYCLISTS RACE ALONG TOWN'S PROMENADE!

**PHOTOGRAPHS by
FRANK SHIPTON**

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THE promenade in Porthcawl was closed for a special reason on Friday as cyclists put their pedals to the metal in a series of races. Several age groups competed as large crowds looked on and enjoyed seeing their very own 'Tour de Porthcawl', and FRANK SHIPTON was on hand to capture the action.



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'CANTARE' DUO ENTHRAL

ON Saturday, August 29, a lunchtime concert was held at All Saints' Church Porthcawl, featuring husband and wife vocal duo 'Cantare' - Angharad Morgan and David Fortey, accompanied on the piano by Ryan Wood.

Angharad has performed with Glyndebourne Festival Opera, Welsh National Opera and recently sang the role of Marguerite in Swansea City Opera's production of *Faust*.

If you missed

Angharad at this concert, don't worry, as she will be the guest soloist at the 50th anniversary concert of Porthcawl RNLI in November.

Like Angharad, David began his professional career with Glyndebourne Festival Opera, and later with Garsington Opera.

Since 2007, David has been a full time member of Only Men Aloud, giving him the opportunity of performing extensively at home and abroad. He also had the honour of performing with OMA at the cauldron-lighting

ceremony at the 2012 London Olympic Games.

In All Saints, they thrilled the packed and enraptured audience with beautiful singing from well known musicals, as well as some lovely songs from those that are lesser known.

David sang 'Corner of the sky' from *Pippin*, which was truly lovely. This was preceded by Angharad's stunningly beautiful rendition of 'Unusual Way' from *Nine*.

Ryan is well known as a superb accompanist and musical director, and he certainly lived up to

his reputation in this concert! The audience was treated to a very high standard of musicianship - a true feast of music.

Judith Anne Shawe, herself a highly accomplished singer and musician, who studied in Switzerland under Friedelind Wagner (Richard Wagner's granddaughter, no less!), promotes concerts and musical entertainment in the area and further afield.

Judith organised the concert in response to requests for high class entertainment during the day.

Many people are reluctant to go out in the night for all sorts of reasons. This concert provided a good way to spend an entertaining afternoon, helped along by the Pimms served in the interval!

A raffle raised £81 for Cancer Research UK. All in all, an enriching and thoroughly enjoyable time was had by all.

The next event, this one in the evening, will be the 50th Anniversary RNLI concert at All Saints' Porthcawl on November 28 at 7pm, featuring Noteworthy Mixed Choir with soprano Angharad Morgan.

JS

Quiz night raises funds

A SUCCESSFUL and fun quiz night was held at the Hi-Tide Inn to raise funds for the recently-refurbished National Coastwatch Institution (NCI) lookout station at the Old Pilot Lookout on the Esplanade in Porthcawl.

Over 100 friends, supporters, family and NCI members from sister stations at Nells Point (Barry Island) and Worms Head, plus teams from the National Trust at Dyffryn, Porthcawl RNLI Station, Porthcawl and Bridgend U3As attended.

All 15 teams competed fiercely. The winners, with an outstanding 95.5 per cent success rate were Pete Roach, Roy Evans and Lynne Evans of Maesteg; Sonia and Michael Gatt of Merthyr Mawr and Carole and Geoff Bush of Tondur.

BR

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Tondu group joins Cardiff ukulele festival



A TONDU men's group were among ukulele fans from across Wales who descended on Cardiff's St David's Hall on Thursday, September 10, for a special event called 'Pimp my uke'.

The ukulele-themed day of music and fun featured musical performances, an exhibition of customised - or 'pimped' - ukuleles, and a talk by local ukulele maker John Daniels.

Organisers also announced the winner of a competition to build Wales's best 'pimped' ukulele at the event.

Men's Sheds Cymru and the older people's charity Age Cymru,

**Pictures by
MANDY THOMAS**
(Available for purchase,
telephone 07541 982794)
www.mandythomasphotography.com

worked together to stage the event.

Robert Visintainer is a volunteer at the Men's Shed in Tondu - the Squirrel's Nest, and the brains behind 'Pimp my uke'.

He said: "Our members are good with their hands and we're always looking for something new and interesting to try out."

"So when I suggested that we have a go at 'Pimp my uke', which involved building ukuleles from kits that you can buy for £20, painting and customising them and

learning to play a few songs, it went down a storm."

"It just grew from there - I got Age Cymru's Gwanwyn arts festival for over 50s involved; other Men's Sheds wanted to join in and then men's groups from around Wales heard about what we were doing and asked if they could be part of the project."

"Today's event was fantastic and we all had a lot of fun", says Robert.

"But the best bit for me was finally getting to meet my new friends

from around Wales face to face after speaking to them over the phone, email or social media over them over the summer months."

The 'Pimp my uke' event was the culmination of a summer-long competition to make and customise kit-built ukuleles.

There were 20 ukuleles entered into the competition - including one with flashing coloured lights in its body, one made from a 'Quality Street' tin, and one made to look like a Gretsch electric guitar.

The 'Pimp my uke' event also featured performances from men's sheds groups from north Wales, Cardiff and Bridgend, and an exhibition of ukuleles.

They were also joined by 'Cardiff Ukulele Nights' and 'The Plucking' Fourstrings'.

Emma Robinson of Age Cymru's Gwanwyn arts festival said: "Working with Men's Sheds gave us the chance to reach men who have practical skills - such as woodworking and DIY, but who maybe wouldn't think that they could use those skills to create art."

their support. The evening raised £300 for Civic Charity funds.

The next event is on Friday, October 9 with a visit by Voskreseniye Vocal Ensemble from St Petersburg, Russia and also Cór Aelwyd Porthcawl. The venue is All Saints Church, Victoria Avenue, Porthcawl. CF36 3HE (tickets £10) at 7pm.

The following charity event is on Sunday, October 18: 'Grand Banquet', at the Golden Well Oriental Restaurant with special guest Simon Piroette, principal and chief executive officer at Bridgend College at 8pm (tickets are £21). Contact Coun Marlene Thomas - 01656 871439; or Mrs Mari Major, MBE. (01656 664105).

Police speakers tell of work in the community

THE Bridgend County Civic Charity was recently welcomed at Seasons Restaurant, Bridgend College, for the annual cheese and wine evening.

Special guest PCSO Lisa Moore explained what her work entailed and was accompanied by PCSO David Lewis.

They were joined by Chief Superintendent Stuart Parfitt of South Wales Police - who helped answer several questions. The evening was chaired by County Councillor Marlene Thomas and County Councillor Richard Young thanked everyone for



"Over the summer, we gave Men's Sheds groups across Wales self-build ukulele kits and asked them to 'pimp' or customise them."

"The results were fantastic and the exhibition of pimped ukes at today's event was evidence of the creativity and talent of the people who took part in the project."

The Gwanwyn Festival is run by Age Cymru with support from the Welsh Government and the Arts Council of Wales.

Age Cymru works, through its network of local charity partners, to make Wales a place where older people can flourish.

For more information about the Gwanwyn

Festival, visit www.gwanwyn.org.uk

Top ten songs by Welsh bands and artists to play on the ukulele:

- 1 She's a ukulady - Tom Jones
- 2 Uke stole the sun from my heart - Manic Street Preachers
- 3 Not up to uke - Stereophonics
- 4 Total ukelipse of the heart - Bonnie Tyler
- 5 Uke love us - Manic Street Preachers
- 6 Can't stop loving uke - Tom Jones
- 7 Juxtaposed with uke - Super Furry Animals
- 8 Uke got a lot to answer for - Catatonia
- 9 Only uke - The Flying Pickets
- 10 Just uking - Stereophonics

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Local optician invests £90,000 in Adare Street store revamp

SPECSAVERS in Bridgend has invested £90,000 on refurbishing and remodeling the store on Adare Street.

It boasts a new pre-screening room, where customers can complete their pre-examinations before seeing an optician, as well as have retinal photography taken and ocular pressure tested.

As part of the new shop layout, the store now also hosts a separate peripheral field visual room where DVLA sight tests are completed.

In addition to the new dedicated rooms for pre-screening and peripheral field visual testing, it has been remodelled to increase the number of dispense desks, had a revamp of the contact lens department, as well as new fixtures

and fittings in all five of its test rooms.

Ann Simpkin, store director of Specsavers in Bridgend, said: "We are always striving to ensure that the service we give to our customers is of the highest quality and following our investment we'll be able to see more patients at a faster rate, making the experience more efficient for everyone."

"Before the store refit, we were already offering pre-screening and peripheral field visual testing at the store, but following customer feedback we recognised the need to make the testing spaces more private and for them to be carried out in quieter areas of the store away from the shop floor."

"It's been a busy time for us at the store as we've not only refurbished the fixtures and fittings

and maximised the testing spaces, we've also launched Digital Precision Eyecare – a cutting-edge new way of selecting and fitting customers' glasses, using imaging software on tablet devices.

"Digital Precision Care ensures everyone receives the very best professional care and advice in frame selection and dispensing for their prescription, vision and lifestyle needs and it's been great to see how customers have responded to this new technology."

"We're very proud to be community opticians and wanted to take on board the comments of our customers to make sure we're delivering the best quality of services in an environment that our customers would enjoy coming to."

PAUL DOESN'T LET A TRIPLE BYPASS SLOW HIM DOWN!

Report by PHILIP IRWIN

WHEN local man Paul Smith decided to tackle a three-day bike ride to raise funds for the British Heart Foundation (BHF) – he had no idea what lay in store.

As he built up his

fitness levels, he suddenly had chest pains – and within three weeks he was on the operating table, having a triple heart bypass.

That might have put the average person off, but Paul was back on his bike within three months, and went on to complete the ride!

Paul, who is Cowbridge born and bred and who now lives in St Mary Hill, told The GEM: "My father died in 2012, following a long battle with heart disease, so I decided to take on the challenge of the London to Paris cycle ride on behalf of the British Heart Foundation (BHF) in his memory."

"When I had the pains I was not convinced it was my heart. I was quite fit and thought it could be indigestion, but I went to A & E in the Princess of Wales Hospital, anyway."

Doctors ruled out indigestion, and explained that it was a cardiac problem. Further tests followed, and within three weeks he had the surgery at Morriston Hospital.

Paul continued: "I received excellent care in Morriston Hospital, and the doctors said I had made a full recovery."

"I questioned them on that, and asked if I could resume training for the ride, and they said yes – after a three-month recuperation period."

So, Paul's partner



Paul Smith celebrates arriving in Paris.

Jane Goodfellow bought him a new road bike to spur him on and as soon as the three months were up, he was back in training.

Jane said: "The focus of the cycle ride was a great help in encouraging Paul to get back to full fitness."

"I am hugely proud of his achievement and determination and it's great to be able to help other heart patients when you have received such excellent care yourself."

Over the past few months Paul has been cycling around the Vale with the Bush Inn cycle team, who have been very welcoming and supportive.

He has also been a regular at the spin classes in Cowbridge Leisure Centre,

particularly during the winter months.

"It has been great to have the support of friends and family throughout my recovery and training," said Paul.

"I was nervous before the ride, but am pleased to say that the camaraderie of all my fellow cyclists helped me to keep going."

"We covered 70 miles on the first day, 82 on the second and 90 on the final day. Whoever told me France was flat was fibbing, there were some gruelling hill climbs!"

Paul has raised close to £1,000 so far, but would like to increase this if possible. If you would like to help this great cause, you can still donate at www.justgiving.com/Paul-Smith179

Porthcawl Comprehensive School

OPEN EVENING FOR YEAR 7 INTAKE IN 2016

To be held at 6.00pm Thursday 1st October 2015

The school is proud to hold its **Annual Open Evening** for those parents who wish their children to attend Year 7 in September 2016.

Porthcawl is a traditional school with a proven track record of excellence for all. Examination results have been consistently above the local and national averages.

In 2014 (GCSE)

- 100% students in Year 11 gained a qualification A*-G
- 25% grades achieved were A*/A

In 2015 (Key Stage 3)

- 89% students in Year 9 achieved Level 5+ in English/Maths/Science (Wales 81%)
- English 98% (Wales 86%), Mathematics 90% (Wales 87%), Science 100% (Wales 90%)

We organise frequent transition events to help pupils settle in; here are some of their thoughts:

"Transition has made me feel more confident!"

"The size of the Comp. has become smaller and is not so big and scary any more!"

"I've already met new friends from other primaries"

Further information can be found on the school website: www.porthcawlschool.co.uk Alternatively you may telephone 01656 774100.

Our recent Estyn inspection report was very positive and we were proud to read that:

"One of the school's strengths is the exceptional working relationship between teachers and pupils. The school has a strong ethos based on fairness and this creates a caring and disciplined environment."

"Transition work with partner primary schools is of the highest quality."

"At Key Stage 3, performance in English, Mathematics and Science has improved and overall performance is higher than modelled expectations."

"Nearly all pupils behave very well in class and around the school. They are ready to learn and participate well in lessons. They are courteous and relate well to one another, to their teachers and to other adults."

More recently:

In the Chief Inspector's Annual Report Porthcawl's "Helping Hands" transition programme has been identified by Estyn as an area of "Outstanding Practice".

Who wants to build what and where?

Gareth Edwards Ltd – 4-6 Dunraven Place, Bridgend – Sign to rear.
D L Construction Ltd – Nantyllyn RFC, Nantyllyn, Maesteg – Two boards advertising the housing development.

Mr David Llewellyn – Tonbach Farm, Orchard Close, Minfrwd Road, Pencoe – Reduce yew tree by up to 2m and re-shape and maintain by annual clipping.

Mr L James – Rosebank, Heol Simonston, Coity – Program of works to 11 trees including crown reduction, crown thinning, felling (within Coity conservation area).
Three Elms Investments Ltd – Waterton Service Station, A48 bypass road, Bridgend – Single storey extension to the rear/left side of forecourt, relocate car wash and site refurbishment.

Dwr Cymru Welsh Water – Land at Maesteg Row, Maesteg – Above ground kiosk to house controls for the combined sewer overflow; kiosk size 1.65m x 1.65m x 0.6m (amended).
Mr Gareth Graves – 8 Park Terrace, Tondur – Replace existing windows and doors (currently wooden, aluminium and UPVC) with new wooden and UPVC.

Mr John Roach – Tirycod, Heol Coedog, Cefn Cribwr – Remove third schedule of section 52 agreement (agricultural use) 82/482.

Mr A Green – 18 Castle Street, Maesteg – Repair and strengthening of existing supporting wall.

Mr and Mrs A Lewis – 1 The Chase, Brackla – Erection of first floor extension.

Mr Craig Dupplaw – 213-214 Bridgend Road, Maesteg – Raise roof height of garages of 213 and 214 and raise roof height of shed of 213 and 214.

Mr J W Jeffreys – 7 Hubert Drive, Litchard – Dormer extension to front roof elevation.

Mr Tim Williams – 43 West Street, Maesteg – Two storey/single storey flat roof additions to rear and detached garage to rear garden.

Mr C Hathway – 3 Deri Cochion, Pencoe – First floor extension to side and single storey extension to rear.

Mr J Thomas – 34 Cae Canol, Nottage – Single storey rear extension.

Mr Pantr – 67 Clos Pwll Clai, Tondur – Conservatory to rear.
Welsh Government – Land at Brocastle off A48, Bridgend – Scoping opinion for proposed office, industrial and ancillary uses.

Miss V Burgess – 218 Bridgend Road, Maesteg – Ground floor extension for sun lounge and first floor extension for bathroom.

MP highlights work of RAF Benevolent Fund

MADELEINE MOON MP was among those invited to a reception hosted by the RAF Benevolent Fund last week.

The event took place in the historic Churchill War Rooms – the bunker of the wartime Prime Minister who famously commended the extraordinary skill and sacrifice of the RAF in the Battle of Britain and articulated the nation's debt of gratitude.

She reported that The reception was an intimate and moving occasion during which tribute was paid to RAF service personnel, past and present.

Important new

research was also presented which analysed and described the needs of serving and retired personnel with unprecedented rigour and attention to detail.

Mrs Moon said: "How we care for those who serve in our armed forces, during and after their service, is a measure of the decency and civility of our society."

"I admire the invaluable work of the RAF Benevolent Fund in promoting awareness of the difficulties faced by service personnel and veterans, and the lifesaving assistance and support they provide."

Recent research conducted by the RAF Benevolent Fund has

revealed that self-care, mobility and isolation/relationship difficulties were the key problem areas for the elderly veteran community. 205,000 ex-RAF personnel had problems with self-care, 170,000 had relationship and isolation issues, and 195,000 had mobility problems.

Reflecting on the report, the MP said: "A worrying number of RAF veterans suffer in silence and isolation, experiencing serious psychological problems and difficulty with their personal relationships, mobility and self-care."

"Sadly, many of us will experience loneliness and grief in old age. For veterans

with debilitating physical or psychological injuries, however, it can be a particularly painful experience.

And yet many ex-RAF personnel feel unable or reluctant to speak openly about the problems they are facing.

"Tragically, only eight per cent of those who reported psychological problems sought and received support in the last year. But there is help available and I encourage anyone who is entitled to assistance to get in touch with my office or contact the RAF Benevolent Fund directly."

For assistance from the RAF Benevolent Fund call 0800 169 2942 or visit their website at www.rafbf.org/help.

The fund offers advice to ex-RAF personnel with personal finance matters and benefit claims.

It also provides support to veterans with mobility and housing issues and work with the charity Combat Stress to provide assistance with the psychological consequences of warfare.

Widows and widowers of veterans are also entitled to support.

WHAT'S ON / news in brief

Chapel concerts

ON September 27 the Tabernacle Music Society will stage its autumn concert at 7.30pm in the Tabernacle Chapel, Derwen Road, Bridgend.

The first half will feature Puccini's *Messa Di Gloria*; the second half will consist of a selection of shorter pieces, and joining the choir will be two soloists

from the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama.

Tickets £10, students £5 on the door or from 01656 665393.

Heol-y-Cyw
A GRAND concert given by Porthcawl Male Choir will take place at Bethel Newydd Chapel, Heol-y-Cyw on Monday, October 12 at 7pm.

Proceeds in aid of Bethel Newydd Chapel and Alzheimer's Society;

light refreshments will be served.

Charity lunch

CANCER Research UK is holding an autumn lunch at the Hi-Tide Inn, Porthcawl, on November 21 at 12.30pm.

Tickets (£8) from Diane Jones on 01656 784762, or committee members.



Ysgol Stanwell School

An invitation to attend Stanwell School's Open Day 2015

Stanwell was inspected in May 2015 and awarded the highest rating of Excellent for all key questions by ESTYN. Inspectors praised the school's outstanding teaching and learning ethos and provision - please visit our website www.stanwell.org to view the full report.

We also achieve consistently excellent examination results. In 2015, 83% of pupils achieved 5 GCSE grades A*-C, (inclusive of English and maths Level 2+) with 96% achieving 5 or more A*-C GCSE grades. 92% achieved a C or above in English GCSE and 89% in maths. 87% of pupils achieved the core subject indicator (A*-C in English, maths and science). Results in the Sixth form are equally impressive, with A* to B grades (85% of entry), which increases to 71% of entry when the Welsh Bacc is included. Estyn states that 'pupil performance in the Sixth Form is well above that seen in similar schools.'

Extensive extra-curricular opportunities are also provided, with music, drama and sport all flourishing at Stanwell.

We invite all prospective pupils and parents for Year 7 and Sixth form to visit our open day on **Tuesday 6th October 3pm - 6pm** to meet staff and pupils and take part in activities.





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Gold ribbon helps highlight Cancer Awareness Month



Carwyn Jones wears the gold ribbon.

TO mark gold ribbon it is an opportunity to raise awareness of the impact that childhood cancer has on families and of the great work that CLIC Sargent do in supporting young cancer patients and their families. I would urge everyone to wear a gold ribbon this September."

Lorraine Clifton, CLIC chief executive, said: "We're so pleased that Carwyn Jones AM will be wearing a gold ribbon and supporting Childhood Cancer Awareness Month. By wearing a

Every month, thousands of children and their families have to cope with the devastating impact of a cancer diagnosis.

"Cancer treatment for children is often gruelling and can start immediately, last as long as three years and take place many miles from home. CLIC Sargent is here to provide vital practical, emotional and financial support from diagnosis onwards."

ID CARD LAUNCHED FOR YOUNG CARERS

LOCAL young Bridgend carers aged under 18 will be eligible for a special ID card to help raise public awareness of their situation.

A council spokesman explained: "Young carers can often have to repeatedly explain their circumstances, which can make them feel uncomfortable about coming forward and asking for help."

"The young carers' ID card has been developed to ease embarrassment and will make teachers and other adults who work with children more aware of a young carer's circumstances."

It is also hoped that the initiative will encourage more young carers to make



Pupils Ruby and Will Rice.

themselves known so that they can be assessed by Bridgend County Borough Council to see what additional support they may be entitled to.

The card scheme was launched last week at Brynteg Comprehensive School, where year-12 student Will Rice explained what the new card will mean for him, his sister Ruby, and other pupils who are young carers.

Will said: "Personally, I feel that the young carers' ID card will be a huge advantage to me and that it will allow me to have some choice and independence regarding my caring role."

"It will allow me to take control of difficult situations, and to be able to ask for assistance or guidance if I need it."

"Having an ID card that is widely recognised throughout the county will allow others to understand my predicament – and maybe have more of an understanding about why I may struggle with deadlines, being on time, or being able to take part in activities."

Phil's ready for his charity row!

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

People can also show their support for Phil's challenge at

<http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/PhilAusti57>. For further details about CRY, please

Man jailed

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

On bail, he was involved in a burglary at a bungalow in Chaucer Close, Cefn Glas, Bridgend, when the occupants were on holiday.

Curnock was said to have convictions for 10 offences, including assault, affray and causing criminal damage.

His counsel, Nicholas Gareth Jones, said: "He accepts he will receive a prison sentence. For some time, he has been homeless."

He added: "He has a bad record, but nothing for burglary. He hit the shopkeeper because he believed his friend was struck with a pole."

The judge said the assault was unprovoked.

Pie in the sky meat trader jailed for tax fraud

A BRIDGEND meat wholesaler, who faked invoices and falsified business records to steal £428,000 in VAT repayments, has been jailed for three-and-a-half years.

HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC) investigators discovered that Lindsey Stoneham (53), would ask companies for written quotes. He then manipulated the legitimate documents to verify the fictitious payments shown on his VAT returns.

Some of the fraudulent invoices related to the construction of buildings that didn't exist, and included £400,000 for constructing agricultural units and £250,000 for the purchase of mobile refrigeration units.

Stoneham was remanded in custody on June 18, after pleading guilty to the fraud between March 2012 and August 2013. He spent a night in police cells for failing to appear at Cardiff Crown Court on June 16, when Judge Rees issued an arrest warrant.

Colin Spinks, Assistant Director, Fraud Investigation Service, HMRC, said: "Lindsey Stoneham set out to

create a false paper trail to claim money he wasn't entitled to, but he finally faced up to his crimes and pleaded guilty to VAT fraud, after initially failing to attend court. We will continue to carry out detailed investigations to bring fraudsters like Stoneham to justice.

"Tax fraud is not a victimless crime; it's theft that robs society of vital funds. Anyone with information about VAT fraud can call the Customs Hotline on 0800 59 5000."

Upon sentencing, His Honour Judge M Fitton QC, said: "This was a sophisticated fraud over a period of time and your principal motivation was financial commitments you could not meet."

The fraud was discovered when a VAT officer became suspicious about Stoneham's monthly VAT returns and referred the case for criminal investigation.

He was originally arrested by HMRC investigators at his Bridgend business premises in October 2013. His home was also searched.

HMRC will now seek to recover the proceeds of his crimes.

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IT'S ROCKABILLY TIME IN PORTHCAWL AS FESTIVAL DESCENDS ON THE TOWN



PHOTOGRAPHS by
FRANK SHIPTON
Mobile - 07790 882925 •
Email - frankshipton@mac.com



THE Porthcawl Rockabilly Festival came to town last weekend.

The festival acts as a curtain-raiser to the Elvis Festival that is coming to Porthcawl this weekend, and allowed visitors to enjoy a little retro fun.

There were bands playing, stalls to visit and audiences enjoyed all that was on offer!

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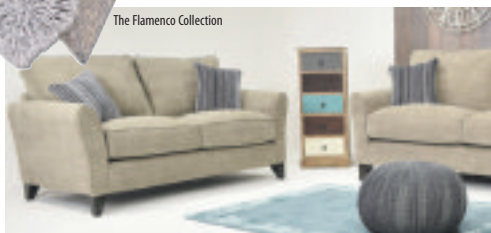
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WE ARE SUCH A SURPRISE!



There was a very late arrival recently at the Wern Fawr Farm, Ystradowen when a beautiful baby ewe arrived, somewhat out of season, but mother and daughter are doing well out in fresh, green pastures. Farmer John Davies, who runs the Glam Lamb brand from the farm, said: "When you work as close to nature as I do, you never know what surprises and joy nature will give you."

Picture by **MIKE WILCOCK**.

Will Aid helps the Red Cross

SINCE being founded in 1988, Will Aid has enabled legal firms to raise over £17 million for the charities.

At the same time, the campaign has encouraged and helped thousands of people to write their wills. This year, we hope to raise even more than 2014's total of over £1.7 million.

The British Red Cross helps people in crisis, wherever and wherever they are. We are part of a global voluntary network, responding to natural disasters, conflicts and individual

emergencies. We enable vulnerable people in the UK and overseas to prepare for and respond to emergencies in their own communities. And when the crisis is over, we help people to recover and move on with their lives.

"When writing a will, your first priority will of course be to provide for loved ones, but many people choose to also include a gift to a cause they feel passionate about. Leaving just one per cent of your estate to the British Red Cross could make an enormous difference to people in crisis."

"A gift in your will to the British Red Cross is a promise that help will be there for people in crisis, whatever the future may hold."

It is advisable to call your local solicitor soon to make an appointment, as Will Aid is a popular service - visit www.willaid.org.uk call 0300 0309 558, or email enquiries@willaid.org.uk to find a solicitor near you. Alternatively, contact me directly on 01823 273710 if you have any queries at all.

PAUL MORGAN,
British Red Cross.

Give a Dinner down Memory Lane for Marie Curie charity

MARIE CURIE is calling all food fans in the area to hold a retro-inspired dinner party in aid of the charity this November.

Retro food is having a revival and Marie Curie's new fundraising campaign, 'Dinner Down Memory Lane', is about holding a dinner party and recreating your favourite nostalgic food.

Recreate time-honoured classics or put a contemporary twist on some old classics like Duck à l'Orange or Prawn Cocktail. The money raised from every dinner party will help Marie Curie provide more free care to people living with a terminal illness and their families.

Hannah Leckie, community fundraiser for Marie Curie, said: "We're really looking forward to seeing what the local community cooks up - whether it be a classic recipe from the past or putting a new twist on an old favourite."

"Holding a 'Dinner Down Memory Lane' is a great alternative to a normal dinner party and by inviting friends to make a donation in return for a dinner with

a difference, you'll be helping Marie Curie Nurses to provide care and support to people living with a terminal illness and their families."

For more information and to sign up for a free fundraising pack, visit www.mariecurie.org.uk/ dinner or call 0800 716 146.

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The Place for Homes celebrates 50 years



INDEPENDENT furniture retailer The Place for Homes is this week celebrating 50 years at their iconic furniture hangar in Llandow, Cowbridge.

"We're really proud to reach this milestone," said managing director, Rhian Francis, "and are marking it with a huge 50th anniversary sale which starts on Saturday, September 26 at 10am with 50 per cent off everything in our anniversary collection."

The company was founded in 1965 and was the original out-of-town store, being known throughout the local area as 'The Supermarket' and selling everything from paint, to toasters and sofas!

Graham Nelson, chairman, remembers it well: "I joined the business as an accountant in 1971, and didn't anticipate then

that I would still be here five decades later."

New Home Warehouses became 'The Place for Homes' in 1986, with the Nelson family at the helm and the support of the legendary actor Leslie S Phillips, who remains the company's president.

In 2001, there were further changes as Rhian Francis, now MD and Rhys Nelson, sales director, two of Graham's children, joined the business.

A rebrand and extensive store renovation in 2007 saw the company moving forward with the launch of its e-commerce website:

"Retailing is changing and evolving, with a user-friendly website being an essential part of modern retailing, and for the first time making it easier for people to find us with the help of google maps and sat nav!" says Rhys.

"The Place for Homes has

survived through the peaks and troughs of the UK economy since 1965, with customers that have been returning throughout the entire 50 years now bringing their children and grandchildren to buy furniture.

"None of it would have been possible without our fantastic team of employees, many of whom have also been with us for many years, in one case 47! I don't believe there are many companies that can say that!"

Although fashions have changed and the store has undergone huge refurbishment, Rhian explained:

"The main ethos and focus of the business hasn't changed – that of providing the very best customer service and value for money – and we're determined that this value will continue into the future, as we look forward to another 50 years!"

Recalling conscription...

THE speaker at last week's Barry Men's Forum was Colin Evans.

He spoke of his experience during the call up. Colin explained that when he got his call up papers, he had hoped to become a pilot in the RAF, but because he had a perforated eardrum, he failed the medical and would not be able to fly.

He was confined to the RAF ground crew for the duration of his national conscription. Peter Westcott the Chairman of Barry Men's Forum, also suffered a similar fate in the RAF when diagnosed with a perforated eardrum.

Anyone considered to be medically unfit would not be put into active service; an example of this was the famous English cricketer Colin Cowdrey.

He had flat feet so he was declared unfit for the armed forces call up.

However, he managed to score a hundred hundreds while playing cricket for England!

National Service existed from January 18, 1947 until December 13, 1962. All of Britain's young men between the age of 18 and 26 were required by law to serve a period of national service in HM's army, navy or the RAF.

The duration varied from two years to 18 months.

They were paid 28 shillings or £1.40p wages each week. The government reduced the period to 18 months, when Viscount Montgomery was transferred to NATO.

Young men from Northern Ireland and the Channel Islands were excluded, but men from the Isle of Man were included.

There were several other exemptions, blind, mentally ill, coal miners, clergymen, university students, apprentices,

farmers and food producers were all excluded.

The total number of men enlisted into the armed forces during this period was 2.3 million. This caused a decline in the national workforce and the output from many factories suffered.

There were several conflicts during and after the Second World War. Britain, as an Imperial nation, had to play a role in peace keeping throughout the world. British forces were

stationed in Germany, India, East Africa, Palestine, Suez and Cyprus.

The Forum next meets on Thursday, October 12. David Tovey will be speaking on the topic 'For All The Tea in China'.

He owns a tea emporium in Monmouth and will be providing some tea samples, at Trinity Presbyterian Church Hall, Aberystwyth Crescent, at 10.15am. New members are welcome.

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Cloudy2Clear Windows – Service With A Smile!

It's been a crazy few months for Cloudy2Clear Windows. The company which specialises in repairing windows which are steamed up, broken or damaged by replacing the panes – not the frames has grown rapidly as homeowners take advantage of their services.

Branch Manager Phil Powell feels that it's all about service. "Our product is simple. If your double glazing is misted up we can replace the glass at a fraction of the cost of a new window, in any type of frame, and with a new 5 year guarantee. But it's not just about saving people money, although

that obviously helps. Many tradespeople have struggled since last year and I honestly feel that during the good times a minority perhaps didn't focus on customer care as much as they should have done. We make sure we turn up when we say we will, do the job the customer requires and leave their house as clean as a whistle. I often get comments back from customers on how they really didn't expect that sort of service which, in a way, is very sad for the service industry as a whole."

Cloudy2Clear service the Vale, Bridgend, BCT and Porthcawl areas and Phil is finding that his

approach is a major factor in his success. "The truth is that it's not just the personal satisfaction that I get from doing a good job but also it makes good business sense. I get a huge amount of business from friends and family of people I've

done work for, which just goes to show how much a little bit of effort is appreciated."

So, if your windows are steamed up, broken or damaged give Phil a call for a free quotation on 0800 61 21 118 and he'll be happy to help!



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Report published on care of children in danger of suffering an early death

A MAJOR new report into the future needs of families in Wales whose children are expected to die in childhood was launched by Wales' Minister for Health and Social Services, Mark Drakeford.

The report, published by the University of South Wales' Welsh Institute for Health and Social Care and commissioned by Tŷ Hafan, is a system-wide review of the services available for children who need specialist care throughout their lives, highlighting the strides that have already been taken in Wales, and providing

life, care.

The report praises the efforts of the Welsh Government and commends the Sugar Report of 2008, which is stated as being fundamental to moving children's end-of-life care forward.

It highlights the significant commitment across the NHS and from specialist clinicians, and describes how the system of care is built around a small number of highly committed individuals working across complex structures, and as such is fragmented and fragile.

The recommendations include developing a Paediatric Palliative Care Implementation Plan to run alongside the End of Life Implementation Plan, to better take account of the specific needs of children.

Authorised by Professor Marcus Longley, Mr Jon Skone and Dr Cerilan Rogers, it draws on the full and active involvement of key stakeholders from the Welsh Government, NHS Wales, Local Health Boards, academia and the charity sector, notably Tŷ Hafan, Hope House Children's Hospices and Together for Short Lives.

Tŷ Hafan commissioned the report to gain insight into future needs and by furthering its partnership with the NHS and others hopes to continue to evolve world-class paediatric

palliative care provision in Wales.

Professor Drakeford said: "I welcome Tŷ Hafan's commitment to working in partnership with the End-of-Life Care Implementation Board and the Welsh Government to drive forward key improvements to end-of-life care for children and young people in Wales."

Out of the estimated population of 1,054 children requiring palliative care in Wales, only around 105 will require end-of-life care during each given year, leaving a question mark over what support and service is currently being offered to the remaining 90 per cent of children with palliative care needs.

Tŷ Hafan's deputy chief executive, Jeremy Jackson, said: "Tŷ Hafan is committed to identifying all children in Wales who are expected to die in childhood and offer them, and their families, a comprehensive package of high-quality, free care and support. We cannot do this alone, we can do so in partnership and we welcome the collaboration and cooperation of all stakeholders that has made this report possible."

For more information on Tŷ Hafan and to read the report in full visit www.tyhafan.org.

Cardiff Then & Now, in colour

GEM columnist, Brian Lee and his daughter Amanda Harvey, who took the 'then' pictures, are delighted that The History Press has recently brought out a paperback version of their *Cardiff Now & Then in Colour*, which was first published in 2012.

From the 1860s, residents of Cardiff were commenting sadly on the rapid changes that were taking place and one local artist found a ready market for his views of disappearing landmarks.

What those long-gone residents would think of the Cardiff of today one can only imagine. This compelling book doesn't contain any artists' impressions – things have moved along a bit since then – but a selection of fascinating old photographs paired with modern ones, taken

from the same spot as those photographers of a century or so ago.

Many of Cardiff's landmark buildings have been demolished, but luckily many also remain and are still recognisable.

Younger readers will be able to visit places of entertainment, work and worship that their parents or grandparents have told them about, while for older readers it will be a nostalgic walk down memory lane.

The Queen Street area of the capital city was well known for its abundance of theatres and cinemas, such as the Capitol, Empire, Olympia and Queens. These picture palaces no longer exist, but the reader of this fascinating book will now be able to see where they actually stood and what business or shop has replaced them.

Cardiff Then & Now In Colour is published by The History Press at £14.99.

BRIAN LEE

Council praised for staying close to home

PLAID Cymru councillor Ian Johnson has welcomed new figures published by Barry Town Council which show that 86 per cent of the council's bought-in services are from companies based in Wales.

Of the council's £484,513 spend on services, £96,999 was from companies in Barry, with a further £321,356 from other companies in Wales.

Coun Johnson said: "Where we can employ quality and high-standard local companies to provide services, then we are creating jobs and, through that employment money goes back into the local community and is spent on other services."

"I am pleased that Barry Town Council is already ahead of the game, with 86 per cent of our spend on services going to companies in Wales and 20 per cent of that going to Barry-based companies."

MUSIC IN THE VALE

MUSIC in the Vale will give a concert in the Senedd by invitation of Jane Hutt AM, on Thursday, September 24 from 5pm – 6pm.

Performing will be some of the finalists from the 2014 competition; anyone wishing to attend should contact Sue Taylor on 01446 781453 or 07836 324967.

This year's competition will take place in Stanwell School on November 14 and 15 and is open to all musicians, singers and instrumentalists aged 8 – 24. Closing date for entries is October 17 and performers must be UK residents. Further information from www.musicinthevale.org.uk.

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From its humble beginnings as The Supermarket to The Place For Homes as you see it today, the Nelson family have been involved for five decades starting as accountants and ending as owners. With the roots of the hangar steeped in history it's difficult to believe the impressive 50,000 sq ft showroom was once home to the legendary Spitfire and Lancaster Bombers of WWII. There is no doubt that our store is unique being the only furniture store of its kind in the UK.

We are delighted to announce that this Autumn sees us celebrate our 50th Anniversary and heralds the start of a year of celebrations that we hope you'll be able to share with us.

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Why Choose Cowbridge Comprehensive School?

Our team of committed teachers are passionate about learning and continually strive to look for innovative ways of helping young people to learn better and more effectively.

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Our caring, nurturing ethos permeates all aspects of school life. High levels of care, support and guidance coupled with our high expectations ensures a calm, purposeful learning environment.

Our proud tradition of sporting excellence means that our sportsmen and women regularly achieve regional, national and international honours, at an enviable range of sports.

Our exceptional range of activities beyond the classroom are central to life at the school; each year boasts a great repertoire of musical and drama performances, visits and activities.

Our facilities are state of the art. However, we dream big and then bigger again. Our ongoing capital development programme means our facilities and resources will remain amongst the very best in Wales.

Above all, we are distinguished by our students, they are our finest ambassadors. They are engaging, sincere, compassionate and have high aspirations and expectations of themselves.

Students describe us as the school with a smile!



'High Street Week' marked across Wales

HIGH Street Week is running this week and is the focus of a national campaign encouraging people to support their vibrant local high streets.

It started on Saturday, September 19 and there are events and fun family activities such as food and craft fairs, children's activities,

vintage days and street parties taking place across Wales.

The week is the focus of the Welsh Government's 'Support Your High Street' campaign, which raises the profile of Welsh high streets and recognises the valuable contribution they make to the economy and

community life.

Minister for communities and tackling poverty, Lesley Griffiths, said: "Our high streets and town centres are a key part of the fabric of Welsh community life.

"They not only offer vital services and great produce, but also valuable places for family and friends to come together to socialise.

"This is why I am encouraging everyone to support their high streets and take part in the fun events and activities taking place up and down Wales this week."

ECD IS an ultra-rare condition with no known cause and is very often misdiagnosed. The disease is considered a non-Langerhans histiocytosis, cancer-like (neoplastic) disease.

Virtually every organ can be involved. Each patient can have a different combination of organs affected. ECD is progressive, potentially resulting in organ failure, unless successful treatment is found.

More commonly

affected are long bones, skin, lungs, brain, pituitary glands, kidneys, the abdominal cavity, the membrane surrounding the heart, and more rarely other organs.

Common symptoms of the disease may include bone pain, fever, night sweats, weakness, fatigue, excessive thirst and urination, balance issues, lower back pain, bulging of the eye/vision issues, rash, shortness of breath, heart issues, and increased susceptibility to infections.

Diagnosis is done in a variety of ways such as biopsies, bone scans, and urine testing.

Research is currently attempting to find best practices in diagnosis, and ultimately find a cure for the currently incurable disease.

The Eredheim Chester Disease Global Alliance (ECDGA) raises funds for medical research, providing the professional and student medical community, as well as patient community with informational material, and up-to-date information on research progress, treatment, and patient support.

A spokesman said: "Education is key to a promising future for someone living with ECD. Support those affected with this disease by getting involved with spreading the word about ECD, or making a donation to help the ECDGA's efforts."

To make a donation visit www.razoo.com/story/Ecd-Global-Alliance. To find out more about Eredheim-Chester Disease visit www.erdheim-chester.org where patient and medical resources from research papers, news and informational videos are available.

Doctors say 'protect yourself with flu jab'

AS winter and the flu season approaches doctors and nurses are advising people with health conditions, pregnant women, the young and elderly to have their flu vaccination before the season hits.

Although very common and considered by some to be nothing major, flu can actually be very dangerous and put lives at risk especially if you are very young, pregnant, over 65 years of age or over six months of age and have an existing illness or health condition such as asthma, diabetes, heart disease.

Last year, over 100,000 people in the ABMU area had their flu vaccination.

Dr Sara Hayes, ABMU Director of Public Health, explains: "Flu is a nasty virus and affects people differently. Some people can carry the virus but have few symptoms. Others, who consider themselves fit and

healthy can be hit for six by it and are unable to get up.

"But our greatest concern is for specific high-risk groups of people who if they catch flu can become so ill they need hospital care. Sadly, some people have even died because of it. This is why we provide a free flu vaccination and encourage those in a high-risk group to have their vaccination before the flu season begins."

One group is anyone over the age of six months who has an existing illness or condition such as asthma, cancer, heart disease, liver disease and diabetes.

Dr Hayes added: "Even if you only have a check up once or twice a year for your condition you are still at a greater risk from flu. It's so important you have the vaccination."

"The same applies to anyone over the age of 65 years, but in this case it doesn't matter if you have an existing illness or condition or you are as fit as a fiddle."

Further information about the flu vaccination can be found at www.abm.wales.nhs.uk/flu.

Maria becomes an ambassador

WORLD first record holder Maria Leijerstam (37), from the Vale, has been selected as an 'Ambassador for Wales'.

The '2016 Year of Adventure' was launched on Tuesday at The Lookout, Hyde Park, London.

Maria who has competed world wide in adventure races across deserts and ice caps, became the first person in the world to cycle to the South Pole in December 2013.

Setting off from the same ice shelf as Scott and Amundsen, she also powered speed record

and is now in the Guinness Book of Records.

To share her spirit of adventure, Maria set up the Burn Series Adventure Races in 2010 in Wales. The adventure racing company, with events in Cardiff and Swansea, attracts families and professionals from the UK and abroad as competitors test out their skills in a variety of adventure sports, all in one day.

"Adventure sport is about pushing boundaries and Wales has the perfect environment for exciting set a world human one day competitions," said Maria.

MPS' EXPENSES CLAIM TOTALS ARE RELEASED

The Parliamentary Authority (Ipsa) has released a summary of MPs' claims for the year 2014-15.

The expense claims include accommodation costs; office costs; staffing; and travel.

The top five claims in Wales were:

Alun Cairns, Vale of Glamorgan, £191,333.35.

Simon Hart, Carmarthen West and South Pembrokeshire, £186,766.73.

Hywel Williams, Arfon, £186,611.99.

Glyn Davies, Montgomeryshire, £184,059.93.

Owen Smith, Pontypridd, £183,689.31.

Other MPs in The Glamorgan GEM area were:

Madeleine Moon, Bridgend, £150,269.01

Huw Irranca-Davies, Ogmore, £175,401.66.

For more information, go to:

www.parliamentary-standards.org.uk/Default.aspx.

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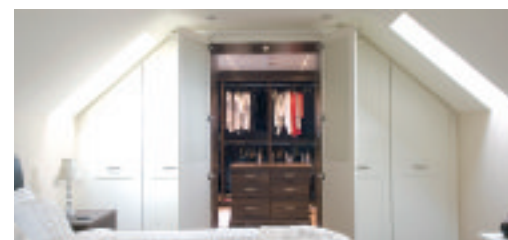
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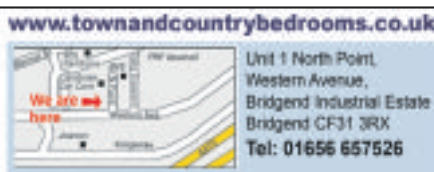
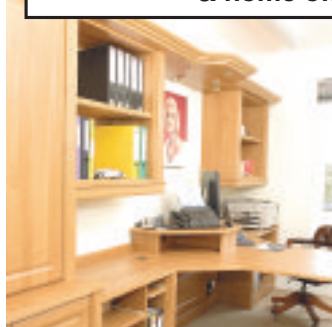
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Best of Barry youth showcased on town square



KING'S Square on Saturday came to life with a 'Showcasing the Youth of Barry' event organised by the Barry Royal Air Forces Association, in partnership with the town Mayor, Vale Council departments and organisations that work with young people.

Opening the event was the High Sheriff of South Glamorgan, Heather Stevens and 372 (Barry) Air Training Corps of Drums marched through Holton Road shopping precinct, onto the square, to start the proceedings.

The High Sheriff praised the work of the individual youth organisations for their

dedication and commitment to providing wonderful opportunities to our youngsters in the town.

Bro Radio were the Master of Ceremonies for the event, introducing the practical demonstrations in the centre of the square.

The Vale Youth Service VPOD bus drew a crowd to see their mobile youth provision, all kitted out to interest the young people and to promote youth clubs across the Vale.

The Barry Youth Action Group conducted feedback surveys among the youngsters coming along, to see what they would like added.

Barry Army cadets demonstrated what they could offer for interested youths, along with the Barry Sea Cadets who were keen to encourage their water

activities. The disabled visitors were introduced to Jeff Savory, chairperson of Special Olympics Wales, fresh back from the Special Olympics World Games in Los Angeles, and joining him on the stall was his son James, with the silver medal he had won in Sprint Kayaking which was of great interest to visitors to the stall.

Pat Finch promoted her disabled swimming group that meets on a Saturday in the Barry Leisure Centre.

Sadly, the light drizzle prevented a safe exhibition of the HUB karate group, who would have demonstrated their martial arts.

But the most outrageous of all, which captured the imagination of all the youngsters, was Emma Mallan from Motion Control Dance (E-



RAFA showcasing the youth of Barry.

Motion). The square became packed with the free styling exhibition under Emma's skilled talents.

The Mayor of the town, Coun Emma Pritchard, was thanked for the wonderful support given to the RAF Association which

allowed the event to become more than an idea.

She received a bouquet of flowers from one of the young participants involved in the event.

Geoff Horton, Barry RAF Association.



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Out and About with The GEM

Mountain thriller manages to balance scale and emotion



by
GARETH JAMIESON
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MOUNT EVEREST is one of the most dangerous places in the world. The thrill and achievement of climbing it has been savoured by a few; however, many more have become casualties to the conditions and the exertion required to make it to the top and back down again.

One such attempt at climbing it, in 1996, is the source of the story

in *Everest*, which sees an all-star cast (including Jason Clarke, Josh Brolin, Sam Worthington, Jake Gyllenhaal) try their hand at conquering the mountain; however, when a snow storm hits, it puts the group in deadly danger, all the while their loved ones (including Keira Knightley) await news of their plight...

You know that if you watch a film called *Everest*, then it's going to be a film that won't be scrimping on scale. After all, the highest point in the world isn't something to be

underplayed on the big screen.

The more pertinent question would be whether or not it be a case of scope over substance, foregoing the nuances of narrative and character in order to focus solely on wowing the audience visually, and the answer is, slightly befuddled conclusion aside, it does a pretty good job of marrying these two elements.

Director Baltasar Kormakur's previous films were the entertaining, if hollow, *Contraband* and decent action film *2 Guns*, neither of which indicated that he had something with far greater scope in him; his direction here is hugely impressive, capturing the scale of the mountain while also showcasing how deadly and beautiful it can be.

The direction is immersive, thrusting you right onto the mountainside (if you manage to watch the film without shivering at least once, you're a harder soul than I) and keeping you there; first to admire the skill and determination of those who climbed the mountain, then to feel the horror and fear as their decline goes horribly wrong.

As you would imagine from a film written by two screenwriters with Oscar pedigree in Simon Beaufoy and William Nicholson, there is a greater level of quality in terms of how the characters are written and play out, far more so than your average disaster movie.

Each character is clearly marked with their own individual arcs that the writers service with aplomb, granting the film depth and resonance that the actors bring to life beautifully.

Jason Clarke's Rob, the head of the company who is guiding the walkers up Everest, is your everyman with noble intentions (attempting to generate publicity for the company through a magazine article, helping one of the climbers achieve his dream), a character Clarke essays with ease. Josh Brolin is your typical braggadocious Texan, pig-headed about getting to the top; Jake Gyllenhaal the laid-back climber; while the chance to see personal favourites John Hawkes (as a postman with a

desire to make real his aims) and Michael Kelly (as the journalist writing about the climb) in higher profile roles also appeals, the film not short on acting quality.

There is the sense that at times it plays its genre cards a little too broadly, several moments where you can sense what is going to go wrong and conspire against the characters and their aims of staying alive, but the biggest false move the film makes comes in its choice of whose view we see the film from.

The film makes such a point of following Rob's story, including tearful phone calls home to pregnant wife Keira Knightley from the beginning, that when it reaches an emotional crescendo, it suddenly moves focus onto another character's miraculous cheating of death.

There's nothing wrong with that, but what the latter character achieves means that the film could, and should, have been told from his point of view, with a subplot involving his family at home backing this up.

It's a misstep that pulls some of the emotion out of what is a saddening story made all the more terrible by its basis in fact, and means that while *Everest* drips with class and skill, come the conclusion you're left feeling a little flat.

VERDICT: An impressive film that engages and enthralls, *Everest* is grand in scope and scale but doesn't underplay or ignore the emotional core at the centre of the story. It loses direction a little come a conclusion that feels mishandled, but this aside it's a solid, visually spectacular piece of work.

SEE THIS IF YOU LIKED: *Touching The Void* (2003), *The Poseidon Adventure* (1972).

WHAT'S ON IN BRIEF

CRIME writer Ann Cleeves is in Penarth this afternoon (Thursday) to launch her latest book *The Moth Catcher*.

The event takes place at 2.30pm in All Saints Church, Victoria Square; entry £5 including refreshments and £5 book discount.

Denim Snakes concert

BARRY West End Club will host the Denim Snakes on September 26 at 7.30pm.

The band, featured on Radio Wales, have been busy recording their latest single.

This is a free event, with local artists Patsy Hunt and Jack Ellis Music the two supporting acts.

Amelia Trust family day

ON Saturday, September 26, the Amelia Trust farm charity will be celebrating its harvest season with its annual family fun day.

The fun starts at 11am and runs until 5pm (£5 per car). There will be tractor rides, live music, children's games, interactive displays.

At 3pm there will be a dog show sponsored by Pets At Home, Bridgend.

Categories include fancy dress dog and owner; best child and junior handlers; most obedient; and best puppy.

Each dog show class costs £1.50 to enter. For more information see website www.ameliatrust.org.uk or call 01446 782030.

'The Hospice' open to public THE Hospice (St John's House) at Newcastle Hill, Bridgend, a protected Grade II listed building, will be open to the public on the weekend of September 26-27.

Meibion y Ddraig/Sons of the Dragon will be at the house demonstrating their archery skills and equipment; www.sonsofthedragon.co.uk/Home.html.

There will be an opportunity to try medieval games and to

view the house either by guided tour or simply by having a walk round.

Bridgend History Society will be displaying pictures about the town's history hosting a walk from 'The Driving School Building', Angel Street on Saturday, September 26 at 11am, to finish at St John's House.

Also on display will be artist's impressions of the house when completed.

The property will be open from 10am-4pm each day.

Lavernock harvest service

A SERVICE of harvest thanksgiving will take place at the former Church of St Lawrence, Fort Road, Lavernock on September 27 at 3pm.

All are welcome to this traditional harvest service, free parking on Fort Road.

All enquiries to Rev Margaret Stark, on 029 207013.

Valeways guided walks

ON Sunday, September 27 there will be an autumn walk starting from St Peter's Church, Mill Road Dinas Powys at 2pm.

On Wednesday, September 30, the Coffee Shop Strollers start from Cosmeston Visitor Centre at

10.30am.

Toy and train sale

THE Barry Toy and Train Sale takes place on Sunday, September 27 at 10.30am-3pm in Barry Leisure Centre, Greenwood Street, Barry, CF63 4RU.

The sister Cardiff Toy and Train Sale will be taking place at Penarth Leisure Centre on Saturday, October 10. Organiser Chris Dyer said this week: "This Barry show is already almost fully booked, with traders and 'house full' expected by the day of the sale."

Contact 01643 702757; 07966 694579/ OR www.chrisdyerfairs.co.uk.

Food Hygiene course

BARRY Communities First are running a Food Hygiene course, free to residents living in Buttrills, Cadoc, Casteland, Court and Gibbonsdown.

It takes place on Monday, September 28 from 9.30am – 4pm at Casteland Community Centre, Belvedere Crescent, Barry.

For more information or to book a place, contact 01446 709432 or email communitiesfirst@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk.

NEW BALLET ACADEMY SETS UP IN BARRY

THIS autumn children and adults of Barry will be able to study ballet with the Royal Academy of Dance (RAD) at Superstars In The Making (SITM).

Local director and choreographer Christian Bullen has clinched a deal to bring RAD teacher Kimberley Tullock to teach grade classes in Barry.

Kimberley trained at RAD in London for three years and has a vast amount of knowledge and experience to give.

Kimberley said: "I am excited to be

joining the SITM staff and to be teaching the RAD syllabus to students who are completely new to ballet, and to those who have studied it in the past."

Classes will be taught with the SITM ethos of being fun but firm. Students are always fully supported to succeed and achieve their potential.

Classes are on Sunday mornings at St John's Hall, Beryl Road, Barry. Open to ages five to adult, beginners and experienced welcome.

www.superstarsinthemaking.com or call 07531 814820.

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'Faceup Cymru' charity aiming to help the local specialist cancer unit

WALES rugby captain Sam Warburton has given his backing to a local charity which works in the complex field of facial cancers.

He has become a patron of Faceup Cymru, the head, neck and oral cancer foundation, which has for 20 years raised funds to support patients and their families as they deal with the trauma of a facial cancer diagnosis.

It would be a macabre exercise to rank cancers in degree of trauma. After all, any patient hearing that word from his consultant faces the

same shock brush with mortality.

However, for someone with a facial cancer, there is the further trauma of wondering: "If I survive, what will I look like?"

For those diagnosed with cancers of the throat and larynx, there is also the fear that they could lose the power of speech.

Mr Michael Fardy is a Consultant Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeon for the Cardiff and Vale Trust, and he often has the task of explaining to a patient just what their treatment will involve.

He said: "In the case, for instance, of cancer of the jaw, I have to explain that I, or my colleague, Mr Cellan Jones, will

by **PHILIP IRWIN**

have to cut away their jawbone – and then cut bone from their lower leg bone to rebuild their face."

To get to this level of expertise, Mr Fardy and Mr Jones have had to train for 17 years. The career path is to take a degree in dentistry, and then take a medical degree – followed by qualifying as a surgeon and finally as a maxillofacial surgeon.

He said: "In so many cases, the trauma of that initial consultation is such that, by the time the patient gets home, he or she can't remember a thing."

"As a result, the charity worked with the local health board to produce a DVD that would enable the patient to take everything in when they returned home."

"Over the last 20 years, the charity has funded extra members of the team – a clinical nurse specialist, a dietician and a speech and language specialist."

Recently, a number of new trustees decided to

get involved, and this has resulted in a new website, www.faceupcymru.org.uk and there is no shortage of areas where the team could put cash raised to good use.

In recent months, there has been increased fundraising activity. Three consultants from the Dental Hospital – Phil Atkin; Nick Drage and Liam Addy took part in the inaugural Wales Velothon on June 14. Nick and Liam completed the 140 Km and Phil did 50 Km, and they raised over £500.

At the same event, Faceup Cymru supporter Leighton Bush raised more than £1,000.

Two charity dinners at the Cophorne Hotel were held in August and September, and the charity thanks the hotel's staff and chefs for their support.

A charity curry extravaganza at the Purple Poppadom restaurant in Canton, Cardiff, under Anand George's expertise on June 29, raised a total of £3,900.

Future events include a Faceup Halloween Party at Penarth Conservative Club on

October 31 (details are available on the charity's website).

Another major fundraising effort is on October 31, when a former patient of the unit, Joanne Hawkins, will be leading a charity walk up Mount Kilimanjaro.

Three years ago, Joanne was diagnosed with a facial and neck cancer. Her treatment was extensive, and extremely stressful, but she has come through and decided to join Sam Warburton as a patron of Faceup Cymru.

She said that the Kilimanjaro trek would be "another massive challenge" and that she hoped to raise £50,000.

For more information on Faceup Cymru, go to www.faceupcymru.org.uk

PIANO RECITAL

LEANNE CODY, a recent finalist in the *Music In The Vale* competition is giving a piano recital at Stanwell School on Friday, November 13 at 6.30pm. Tickets will be available on the door.

Penarth teacher wins memory silver medal

A WELSH teacher narrowly missed out on being crowned UK Memory Champion.

James Paterson, who grew up in Penarth, won the silver medal at the UK Memory Championships in London, which saw him rank number two in the UK, while also regaining his Welsh Memory Champion title.

James began honing his memory skills when a pupil at Stanwell School in Penarth, and now puts his skills to good use at LVS Ascot, a leading all-ability day and boarding school in Berkshire, where he teaches psychology.

He also finished second in 2014, and while this year he finished ahead of last year's winner Ben Pridmore, he was agonisingly piped to the title by Marlo Knight from London.

There was good reason for James to celebrate though as he set a new UK record in the process by memorising 242 random words in order in 15 minutes, beating his own previous mark of 224 words.



James Paterson teaches a pupil memory techniques at LVS Ascot.

Garden charity day

THE public is invited to join the Barry Community Garden in Gibbonsdown for coffee and cake on Friday, September 25 – to raise funds for the Macmillan charity.

Located next to Pencoeirde Splash Park, off Dyfnallt Road in Barry, the event will take place at the garden between 10am-12pm.

The Barry Community Garden plans to run a workshop on making furniture and planters from wooden pallets and will also hold a Christmas celebration in December.

Contact Lisa Williams on lisa.williams@newydd.co.uk or call 07501 468694.

Young people welcome bus 'mytravelpass'

THE new 'mytravelpass' entitles young people aged 16 – 18 to a third off bus fare prices in Wales.

Vale AM Jane Hutt met last week with young people in Barry, Michaela Richardson and Ted Perkes who welcomed the move by the Welsh Government.

"The 'mytravelpass' shows our commitment to supporting young people and ensuring that they are able to access jobs and training opportunities in Wales as easily as possible," she said.



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To maintain the period appearance it's important to choose the correct colour and finish. The Heritage range comes in a number of classic shades as well as natural finishes including English and Silvered Oak. It's this attention to detail that has helped the Heritage range win the approval of planning officers.

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Christmas Party Guide

TOWN OR COUNTRY? There's plenty of choices for your Christmas outing!

THERE is a lot to be said for planning an office Christmas party as a real outing, and in the Vale and Bridgend areas, that can mean a trip into one of our towns or out into the country.

So many venues – be they country pubs, hotels or establishments in small villages – are now tuned into welcoming Christmas parties, and they have become skilled at meeting all requirements.

Naturally people want to enjoy a few drinks at a party so it makes sense to hire a mini-bus so no-one has to drive home.

A mini-bus or coach can be part of the build-up to the evening. It can increase the 'buzz' and camaraderie,

getting everyone relaxed and in a party mood before you set foot in the venue.

So much has changed over the years when it comes to dining.

Twenty years ago many establishments had very predictable styles of cuisine.

Country pubs and public houses in towns would serve up something traditional and wholesome, like a roast dinner perhaps, followed by a dessert of trusty Black Forest gâteau or ice-cream.

Now the culinary landscape has been transformed, the chefs have escaped the confines of conformity and are keen to create their own 'specials' and something that bit different.

Competition has meant an improvement in quality across the board.

Nowadays, menus are put together that have an

excellent chance of satisfying the varied tastes of any random group of diners-out.

As customers have become more discerning – and this may well be due to all the Masterchef-style programmes on TV – so local chefs have responded.

So make that choice. Do you want an evening out in a local town – a restaurant or hotel perhaps?

Or maybe the relaxation of the country pub is more appealing to your family or fellow office workers.

Venues are already producing their Christmas menus and making arrangements for entertainment. So do your research, make your choice, and then you can relax for the Autumn, content that the office Christmas party is sorted out and there will be no last minute rush.

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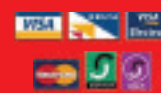
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FRIENDS RALLY TO SUPPORT BRAVE SIAN'S 'WALK OR WATER' FUNDRAISER



PHOTOGRAPHS by ANDY WICKS Telephone 07855 374478

ON Saturday, September 19, nearly 500 friends, family members, colleagues and fundraisers walked and 'canoed' the 9km from Fontygary in Rhosce to Barry Yacht Club in support of an inspirational mother's fight against cancer.

All the money raised will be donated to Velindre Cancer Centre.

Sian Laycock's 'Walk or Water' event was organised by her close friend Sarah Thomas, and supported by friends and family.

A total of 470 adults and children registered to take part (with more on the day) aiming to raise money for the *Leading Lights Appeal* which supports specialist nurses, and *The Pink Appeal* which funds breast cancer research and care at Velindre Cancer Centre.

Sian was overwhelmed by the support shown.

Her battle against cancer started in 2011 when she was first diagnosed with breast cancer, and after two operations, five months of chemotherapy and a year of hormone treatment she thought her life was back to normal.

In 2014, however, after suffering a fractured rib at a sponsored 10k swim, she received the devastating news and

was diagnosed with secondary breast cancer.

"My family and friends have been amazing throughout and I feel so lucky to have such amazing people around me. I am the proudest mother, wife, sister, and daughter ever."

Sian explained: "My treatment has been constant and an emotional roller-coaster. My consultant, the staff and my specialist breast nurse at Velindre have eased the burden of coping with my illness. Their support has been invaluable. This is why it was easy to choose to thank Velindre."

Andrew Morris, head of fundraising at Velindre, said: "To recruit 500 people to support you on a sponsored walk is an incredible effort, but then Sian is an incredible person."

"This response just shows the huge respect that she is held in by so many people. The money raised from this event will allow us to continue to fund our *Leading Lights* and *Pink Appeals* ensuring that the best possible care and support is provided to patients and their families dealing with cancer in Wales."

You can support Sian and her friends by sponsoring them at: <https://mydonate.bt.com/fundraisers/sianswalkorwater>. For more information on Velindre, go to: www.velindrefundraising.com/victoryovercancer.



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Llantwit Major under-11s show their hunger!

ON a lovely Sunday morning Llantwit Warriors welcomed Llantrisant under-11s.

The match was a hard hitting and very fast paced game.

The Warriors started the match strongly, opening up the field with some great rucking and quick play, creating space for players to get through Llantrisant's defence to score tries.

Just before half-time Llantrisant made an fantastic interception and left the Warriors standing to score their first try of the match.

At half-time the score was Warriors 5, Llantrisant 2. The players started the second half running hard and took the Warriors by surprise and quickly scored some lovely running tries.

Both teams were playing brilliantly; the tackles that were being made were awesome.

Llantrisant were making the Warriors

defence work hard and were able to score two more tries to take them in front with only five minutes left on the clock.

In the last few minutes of the game, the Warriors passed, played, rucked and tackled everything that came their way.

They were determined to score and finish the match at least level, if not with a win, and their hard work paid off.

With only a minute left on the clock the Warriors were able to push over the line to level the score at 6-6.

The Warriors kept their cool, even when they were behind and played some great rugby.

Try scorers: Iwan, Tomas, Logan, Dylan M (2) and Aneurin.

Squad: Oly Williams, Evan Harris, Dylan Morgan, Corey Lougher, Tomas Roberts, Owen Hill, Logan Pike, Rhys Davies, Iwan Thomas, Cristian Parry, Jamie Jenkins, Caleb Beare, Aneurin Price and Dylan Wright.

SR

The Barry and District ladies' skittles results

LATEST results for week commencing September 7:

First division:
Special Angels (J Abram 30) 228, SV Gals (D Manning 30) 279; Space Finders (M Clark 42) 348, Bobby's Girls (A Seccon 30) 299; Coppers (D Nesbitt 34) 314, Colcot Ladies (S Howcroft 40) 334; Baker's Dozen (K James 28) 257, Breakaways (B Thurston 31) 246; Cigar Ladies (L Coleman 30) 299, Barry Stars (C Lambeth, S Philip, S Hopkins 28) 289; Castle Bandits (M Cooper 28) 256, Family and Friends (J Walden 25) 215.

Second division: Cad Con Fillies (M Boulter, S Chilcott 22) 221, Pila Palas (A Williams, S Bennett 23) 218; Castaways (B Byrne 28) 279, Rhosse Ravens (C Bagnall 31) 243; Vixens (T Hutton 30) 312, Witchill Widows (S Muray, G McCarthy 31) 307; Little Devils (D Harby 25) 223, SV Lights (P Snook 27) 217; After Eight's (P Mephram 33) 270, Clickies (E Walters 31) 301; Red Admiral (S Hayes 25) 234, Merry Makers (C Edwards, G Hawkins 23) 220.

Third division: Hill

Billies (M Brinkworth 34) 314, Rugby Triers (S Cogbill 32) 323; Persuaders (F Organ 28) 224, Etcetera (C Mackintosh 23) 222; Westenders (J Jeynes 24) 203, Airways Angels (M Carpenter 27) 247; La Belles (J Williams 37) 315, Divas (C Jenkins 33) 252; Fallen Angels (T Lawrence, C Jones 25) 245, Twilights (S Davies 24) 234; Friends and Neighbours (C White, E Western 24) 242, Dolly Mixtures (G Burdge 28) 267; Roller Coasters (T Saunders, S Jones 25) 224, S V Ladies (F Butler 25) 230.

Fourth division: Challengers (J Jones 33) 313, Guardian Angels (D Ling 34) 295; Rebels (S Williams 26) 189, Aristocats (T Weston 26) 211; Uptown Girls (H Hawkins 27) 253, Nite Outers (M Hudson 27) 199; Off The Rails (L McCormack 27) 219, Hell Raisers (J Ellett 26) 214; Liberals (A Crane 26) 188, Witches (L Carey 29) 234; Socialites (P Todd, S Marks 31) 269, Optimists (S Bond 29) 274; Livin on the Spare – bye.

MACMILLAN COFFEE

RAINBOW Women's Group is holding a Macmillan coffee morning to be held on Friday, October 9 from 11am-2pm at Margaret Alexander Community Centre, Alexander Crescent, Barry, CF62 7HU.

The chairman of the group, Basma Ibbasheh, said there is a warm welcome for everybody.

For more information, contact 0788 6540919 or 01446 677641.

Ivor Stokes at the Llantwit Major Horticultural Society

AN illustrated talk by Ivor Stokes, knowledgeable plantsman and former Director of Horticulture at the Botanic Garden of Wales will take place at 7.30pm in the Llantonian Hall (off the Boverton road, behind the library) on September 30.

The speaker is an expert on rhododendrons, camellias and magnolias. His subject will be the history and management of woodland gardens.

Admission is free; all welcome.

Pampering/fashion show

ON Thursday, October 1, the Vale 50+ Strategy Forum is celebrating International Older People's Day by holding a fashion show/pampering/info event in the main hall of the Memo Arts Centre, Gladstone Road Barry, CF62 8NA, from 10am until 3pm.

Clothes provided by a well-known local fashion chain will be modelled by 50+ models. Sing along with a choir, taster sessions on a range of

pampering activities including head and hand massage, reflexology and Tai Chi. Try out laptops and tablets, visit a range of information and advice stalls.

Free admission and refreshments, all ages are welcome.

Rhose bingo

A FUNDRAISING bingo afternoon will be held at Rhose Community Hall in Stewart Road on Saturday, October 2; doors open at 1.45pm for a 2.30pm start. There will be a raffle and light refreshments at the half-time break, as usual.

Cowbridge Apple Day

COWBRIDGE Farmers' Market is hosting an apple pressing event on Saturday, October 3 from 9.30am – 12.30pm in Arthur John's car park.

Bring your apples and containers along, and take away the juice for drinking or cider making! A half-full 'bag for life' will yield roughly one litre of juice.

Volunteers to help on the day would be appreciated.

If you have an apple tree with surplus fruit, help

may be available to harvest them. Contact Harvest Cowbridge on 07890 407670 for details.

Rhose Art Group

THE annual exhibition and sale of paintings will be held on Saturday, October 3 from 11am – 5pm in the community hall, Stewart Road, Rhose CF62 3EZ.

South Wales Shadows Club

MEET at the Conservative Club, Stanwell Road, Penarth on October 13 from 8pm.

Bring your guitar, PA system available and licensed bar; all welcome.

'Come and Sing'

COR Bro Ogwr are looking for new recruits to 'come and sing' on Saturday, October 17.

The programme will contain songs from the musicals, opera choruses, Welsh songs, Handel, and a short classical piece that the choir is currently learning.

'Come and Sing' will take place at 12.30pm at Tabernacle Church, Derwen Road, Bridgend.

For more information call 01656 653326 or www.cor-bro-ogwr.com.

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL • CYNGOR BRO MORGANWGW

Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act, 1990

Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Wales) Order 2012

Development that may affect a Conservation Area/ Datblygu a allai effeithio ar Ardal Gadwraeth

Application No./ Rhif y cais: 2015/00960/FUL
Proposal/Cynnig: Development of 120 homes including affordable homes, new vehicle, pedestrian and cycle access, improvement works to Pendoylan Lane, regrading of site, drainage, landscape works, provision of public open space, demolition of existing modern timber stables and all associated works
Location/Lleoliad: Land at Sycamore Cross, Pendoylan Lane and North of A48, Bonvilston

Conservation Area/ Ardal Gadwraeth: Bonvilston

Application No./ Rhif y cais: 2015/01030/FUL
Proposal/Cynnig: Proposed four detached dwellings
Location/Lleoliad: Court Farm, Bonvilston
Conservation Area/ Ardal Gadwraeth: Bonvilston

Listed Building Consent/Caniatâd Adeilad Rhestredig

Application No./ Rhif y cais: 2015/01017/LBC
Proposal/Cynnig: Proposed builder's maintenance work to the existing pitched flat roofs
Location/Lleoliad: Tudor Tavern, Church Street, Llantwit Major
Listed Building/ Adeilad Rhestredig: Grade II

Application No./ Rhif y cais: 2015/01018/LBC
Proposal/Cynnig: Add new air conditioning heat pump system with new indoor wall units and external condensers
Location/Lleoliad: Tudor Tavern, Church Street
Listed Building/ Adeilad Rhestredig: Grade II

Application(s) of General Interest/ Ceisiadau o Ddiddordeb Cyffredinol

Application No./ Rhif y cais: 2015/00928/RG3
Proposal/Cynnig: Proposed new junction and road section between Cross Common Road and Cardiff Road, Dinas Powys
Location/Lleoliad: Cross Common Road, Dinas Powys

Application No./ Rhif y cais: 2015/00954/FUL
Proposal/Cynnig: Construction of small retirement complex of two and three storey linked cottages and flats with communal resident and guest facilities, parking and garden areas
Location/Lleoliad: Bryneithin Home for the Elderly, St. Andrews Road, Dinas Powys

Application No./ Rhif y cais: 2015/00960/FUL
Proposal/Cynnig: Development of 120 homes including affordable homes, new vehicle, pedestrian and cycle access, improvement works to Pendoylan Lane, regrading of site, drainage, landscape works, provision of public open space, demolition of existing modern timber stables and all associated works
Location/Lleoliad: Land at Sycamore Cross, Pendoylan Lane and North of A48, Bonvilston

Application No./ Rhif y cais: 2015/01001/FUL
Proposal/Cynnig: Proposed continued implementation of planning permission No. 1999/00957/FUL without compliance with condition No. 2
Location/Lleoliad: Wenvoe Quarry, Wenvoe

May affect a Public Right of Way Gall effeithio ar Hawl Tramwy Cyhoeddus

Application No./ Rhif y cais: 2015/00703/FUL
Proposal/Cynnig: Barn conversion to holiday chalet
Location/Lleoliad: Tyn Y Tranch Farm, Lane - Cottage Road - Jct Tyn Y Pant to Jct New Forest Reservoir, Ystradowen.

Application(s) with Environmental Statement/ Cais (au) gyda Datganiad Amgylcheddol

NOTICE UNDER ARTICLE 8

Proposed development at Land at Sycamore Cross, Pendoylan Lane and North of A48, Bonvilston.

I give notice that Bonvilston Vale Limited & Village Homes LLP is applying to The Vale of Glamorgan Council for Planning Permission to Development of 120 homes including affordable homes, new vehicle, pedestrian and cycle access, improvement works to Pendoylan Lane, regrading of site, drainage, landscape works, provision of public open space, demolition of existing modern timber stables and all associated works.

The proposal has been submitted with an environmental statement which can be inspected at the address given below. Members of the public may obtain a hard copy version of the environmental statement at a charge of £233.00, or a CD copy at a charge of £15.00 from Barton Willmore, Greyfriars House, Greyfriars Road, Cardiff CF10 3AL so long as stocks last.

Members of the public may inspect copies of:

- The application.
- The plans.
- The environmental statement.
- Other documents submitted with the application.

at the address given below during all reasonable hours until 15 October, 2015.

Anyone who wishes to make representations about this application should write to the Head of Planning and Transportation at the address given below by 15 October 2015 quoting reference 2015/00960/FUL.

HYSBYSIAD O DAN ERTHYGL 8

Datblygiad arfaethedig yn Land at Sycamore Cross, Pendoylan Lane and North of A48, Bonvilston

Hysbysir trwy hyn Bonvilston Vale Limited & Village Homes LLP n gwneud cais i Gyngor Bro Morgannwg am Ganiatâd Cynllunio ar gyfeirio Development of 120 homes including affordable homes, new vehicle, pedestrian and cycle access, improvement works to Pendoylan Lane, regrading of site, drainage, landscape works, provision of public open space, demolition of existing modern timber stables and all associated works

Cafodd y cynnig ei gyflwyno gyda datganiad amgylcheddol sydd ar gael i'w ddarllen yn y cyfeiriad isod. Members of the public may obtain a hard copy version of the environmental statement at a charge of £233.00, or a CD copy at a charge of £15.00 from Barton Willmore, Greyfriars House, Greyfriars Road, Cardiff CF10 3AL so long as stocks last.

Caiff aelodau o'r cyhoedd hefyd ddarllen copïau o'r:

- cais;
- cynlluniau;
- datganiad amgylcheddol;
- dogfennau eraill a gyflwynwyd gyda'r cais,

yn y cyfeiriad isod yn ystod oriau rhesymau tan 15 October, 2015.

Dylai unrhyw un sydd am wneud sylwadau ar y cais ysgrifennu at Bennaeth Cynllunio a Chludiant y cyngor (gwelwch y dudalen ar waelod y dudalen) erbyn 15 October 2015 an ddyfynnu'r cyfeirnod 2015/00960/FUL.

Details may be inspected for 21 days at the address given below, or via <http://vagonline.planning-register.co.uk/>

Gall manylion eu harchwilio am 21 diwrnod yn y cyfeiriad a roddir isod, neu drwy <http://vagonline.planning-register.co.uk/>

Dated / Dyddiedig: 24 September, 2015

M. Goldsworthy
Operational Manager Development & Building Control,
Vale of Glamorgan Council, Dock Office, Barry. CF63 4RT



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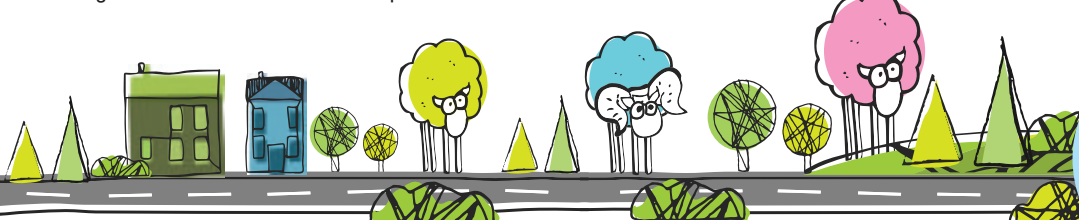
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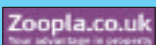
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 • ER=D
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62 WOODHAM PARK, BARRY - £229,950

Well presented detached property located towards the north of Barry. Lounge. Kitchen/dining room. Utility room. Cloakroom. Four double bedrooms. Family bathroom and En suite. Garage and driveway parking. Views over open playing fields. Offered for sale with NO CHAIN.



58 GLAMORGAN STREET, BARRY - £134,950

Extended terraced house located in west end of Barry. Lounge/dining room. Modern fitted kitchen. Ground floor bathroom. Three bedrooms. Enclosed front and rear courtyard. Close to schools and local amenities.



ARDEN, ROMILLY PARK ROAD, BARRY - £374,950

Traditional extended bay fronted property overlooking Romilly Park. Two reception rooms. Kitchen. Dining area. Shower room to ground floor. Four bedrooms. Bathroom. Gardens to front and rear. Garage and driveway. Extensively renovated throughout to a high standard. Close to all amenities.



4 GREAT THOMAS CLOSE, BARRY - £177,500

Semi detached property. Two reception rooms. Three double bedrooms. En suite shower room. UPVC double glazing. Gas central heating. Parking and enclosed rear garden. Rural location. Walking distance to beach.



8 MAES GLAS, WOODLANDS RISE, BARRY - £220,000

Detached property in West end of Barry. Lounge. Kitchen/Dining Room. Cloakroom. Three Bedrooms. Bathroom. UPVC double glazing. Gas central heating. Garage. Enclosed rear garden. Views over countryside. Cul de Sac location.



**NOTICE OF OFFER
149 GLADSTONE ROAD, BARRY**

By order of the trustees, we advise that an offer has been made for the above property in the sum of **£145,000**. Any person wishing to increase on this offer should notify the estate agents of their best and final offer prior to exchange of contracts. Knights Estate Agents. 84 High Street, Barry CF62 7DX. 01446 700222



55 DOCK VIEW ROAD, BARRY - £179,950

Well maintained Victorian semi detached. Lounge/dining room. Sitting room. Fitted kitchen. Large bathroom. Three double bedrooms. Well maintained rear garden and forecourt. Off road parking. Extensive views over Waterfront.



37 EVAN STREET, BARRY - £114,950

Traditional terraced property. Refurbished throughout. Lounge through dining room. Fitted kitchen. Two double bedrooms. Modern bathroom. Low maintenance rear garden. Close to shopping centre.



43 DUNRAVEN STREET, BARRY - £140,000

End of terrace property in the West end of Barry. Open plan living room. Fitted kitchen/breakfast room. Two bedrooms. Bathroom to first floor. Recently renovated to a high standard. Close to local amenities and Schools.



4 DAVIES STREET, BARRY - £110,000

Traditional mid terrace property. Lounge/dining room. Fitted kitchen. Ground floor bathroom. Three bedrooms. UPVC double glazing. Gas central heating. Close to shops, schools and bus routes. No Chain.



27 THE WHEATE CLOSE, THE HOLLIES, RHOOSE - £200,000

Detached property Rhooose Village. Lounge/dining room. Kitchen/breakfast room. Cloakroom. Three bedrooms. Family bathroom and en suite shower room. Driveway and garage. Close to train station, beach and local amenities.



2 HEOL SIRHWI, CWM TALWG, BARRY - £249,950

Detached chalet bungalow in the west end of Barry. Lounge. Kitchen opening onto dining/sitting room. Conservatory. Utility room. Cloakroom. Two double bedrooms. Modern bathroom. Garden front and rear. Driveway and garage.



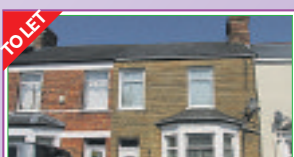
FFORDD Y MILENWM 2 BED TERRACE - £625.00



HEOL LUEBREN PENCOEDTRE VILLAGE - £875
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LEWIS STREET - £625.00
3 bed terrace



RAEGYLL, STATION ROAD - £890.00
2 bed detached bungalow



CHAPLINS, HIGH STREET, BARRY - £249,950

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117 BARRY ROAD, BARRY - £5,000 per annum

Corner Shop Unit with Storage Room in the east end of Barry. Previously Sandwich Shop/Bakery Main Retail Area 22m/23.2ft approx Total floor area 33m/358ft approx.



**BUILDING PLOT,
FONTYGARY ROAD, RHOOSE - £175,000**

Building plot with planning permission accessed via South View. Approx 16.5m x 68.89m with planning for contemporary three bedroom detached residence. Walking distance of Train Station, shops, schools and local amenities. South facing views over Bristol Channel and beyond.

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Pencoed

£159,950

An attractive 3 bedroom semi detached house on this small development on the fringe of the popular village of Pencoed. Well presented and maintained accommodation consists of lounge, fitted kitchen/diner, downstairs cloakroom, master bedroom with en-suite shower, 2 further bedrooms and family bathroom. Small garden to front and lawned garden with patio area to rear with access to single garage and twin parking space. EPC Rating - C



Llanharry

£254,950

Well positioned at the head of a small cul-de-sac is this four double bedded house with single integral garage, driveway parking and easily maintained gardens to front and rear. Accommodation comprises entrance hallway, cloakroom, lounge, dining room/sitting room, kitchen, four double bedrooms with en-suite shower off the master, family bathroom. Early viewing of this family home is recommended. EPC Rating - TBC



Cowbridge £650pcm

A well appointed first floor flat within walking distance of Cowbridge town centre. The accommodation comprises a good size living room, comprehensively fitted kitchen, two bedrooms and a modern bathroom. The flat benefits from being recently refurbished throughout. Occupation is available immediately.



Cowbridge £565,000

Deceptively spacious house with well presented accommodation on 3 floors including 3 reception rooms, kitchen/breakfast room and 5 double bedrooms, family bathroom and an en-suite. Gardens. Double garage. Distant views over town and countryside. EPC Rating - D



Cowbridge £575,000

Character detached house set within pretty mature gardens. The accommodation includes living room, sitting room, dining room, a garden room, study area, kitchen/diner, utility room, cloakroom/WC, 4 bedrooms, an en-suite shower room, separate shower room and family bathroom. Double garage and workshop. EPC Rating - E



Lllysworney £498,000

An attractive, detached cottage retaining many character features. Accommodation includes living room with inglenook fireplace, dining room, sitting room, fitted kitchen, conservatory, cloak/WC, master bedroom with en-suite shower room, 3 further bedrooms and family bathroom. Outside lawned areas, sizeable off-road parking, further amenity land and double garage. EPC Rating - F



Llanmaes £415,000

Deceptively spacious, detached house with well proportioned accommodation including lounge, conservatory, dining room, study, kitchen-breakfast room, a large utility room and cloakroom/WC, 4 double bedrooms, plus a family bathroom. Driveway parking and integral, double garage. Lawned front garden and a sheltered rear garden. EPC Rating - E



St Nicholas £795,000

A new, detached bungalow (in the course of construction), set within grounds and pasture land extending to approximately 1.07 acre, and enjoying spectacular southerly views across the rural Vale and the Bristol Channel beyond. Accommodation to include hall, lounge, kitchen/dining room, study, 4 bedrooms, 2 en-suites and a family bathroom, and cloakroom/WC.



Cefn Cribwr £499,950

An attractive cottage, with accommodation including a wealth of character features, two reception rooms, fitted kitchen, utility, shower room, three sizeable bedrooms, with potential to create a 4th bedroom, family bathroom. Mature gardens, stable block, pasture land and ground extending to approximately 4 acres and enjoying some spectacular, far reaching views. EPC Rating - F



Bridgend £220,000

A traditional, semi-detached house, in the popular residential area of Ewenny Rd, Bridgend, within level walking distance of the town centre. Well proportioned accommodation comprising 2 living rooms, kitchen/dining room, downstairs cloakroom 3 bedrooms and 2 shower rooms. Front and rear garden. EPC Rating - D

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£164,950 tbc



Chris Davies



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Quiet Close

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Beggars Pound, St Athan
4 Bedrooms
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Boverton Brook, Llantwit Major
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£199,950 F29



Harding Close, Boverton
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Cwrt Y Cadno, Llantwit Major
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Potential to Extend

£174,950 D67



Four Acre, Llantwit Major
3 Beds. 2 Recps.
Driveway. Garage.
Southerly Rear.

£174,950 C70

NEW PRICE



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3 Bedrooms.
Sitting/Dining Room.
GCH Combi.

£124,950 D60



Heol-Y-Felin, Llantwit Major
3 Bedrooms
Conservatory
Sought After Location

£299,950 E52




River Walk, Llantwit Major
3 Beds. 2 Recps.
Detached Garage.
Potential to Extend.

£239,950 D56



Ash Lane, St Athan
3 Bedrooms
Rarely Available
Potential to Extend

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Tathan Crescent, St Athan
4 Bedrooms.
Garage. Conservatory.
Driveway. No Chain.

£215,000 E43



Bedford Rise, Llantwit Major
2 Bedrooms
Ground Floor Flat
Southerly Rear

£89,950 D65

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Greys Drive, Llantwit Major
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Family Notices

WEST John

Hanlon, Vince, Margaret and family would like to thank everyone who attended the celebration of a wonderful man and for all of the cards, flowers and donations of £300 for 'Vale Plus'. A special thank you to Lyndsay and staff and a big thank you to Tony Leeson for giving an uplifting service.

RADCLIFFE Wayne

It is with great sadness that we announce Wayne Radcliffe lost his battle with cancer on September 14. He will be a much missed husband, father, grandfather and friend.

Cremation to be held on Friday, September 25 in Coychurch Crematorium at 12 noon.

The family request no flowers but donations may be made to MacMillan Cancer Support or Marie Curie Cancer Care c/o W.A. Brown & Son, College Street, Llantwit Major, CF61 1SG (cheques only).

PAGE Joyce

Peacefully on September 6 at Llandough Hospital, Joyce of Charlotte Place, Barry. Beloved wife of the late Benjamin Joseph (Ben), much loved mother of Alan and mother-in-law of Esme. Adored grandmother of Clare, Michael, Karen and great grandmother of Elizabeth, Nigel, Lorelei, Shaun, Aiden, Mollie, Nicholas and Lauren, Lydia, Maisie and Rhoda. Great great grandmother of Riley, Leah and Aurora.

Resting at A.G. Adams & Son Funeral Home, Gladstone Road, Barry until the funeral on Monday, September 28. Service in the chapel at 11.15am, afterwards interment at Barry Cemetery.

Family flowers only, if desired, donations may be handed to the funeral director after the funeral for Ty Hafan Childrens Hospice in Wales.

NEWMAN Norma Elizabeth

Peacefully on September 18 at the Princess of Wales Hospital, Norma of Caer Berllan, Pencoed, formerly of St. Mary's Hill. Dearly loved wife of Bob, much loved mother of Diane, Philip, Robert, the late Gerald. Mother-in-law, loving nan to all her grandchildren and great-grandchildren and a dear sister to Vernon.

Norma will be sadly missed by all her family and friends.

Funeral Thursday, October 1, service and cremation at Coychurch Crematorium at 3.15pm. Family flowers only, donations in lieu may be made to Cancer Research Wales c/o Mel & Ron Watkins Funeral Services, Graigwen, 12 Pentwyn Road, Pencoed, Bridgend, CF35 6SB Tel: 01656 860545.

SCOTT Frank

Suddenly passed away in his sleep at home, after a short illness on September 21. Loving partner of Celia. Will be sadly missed by family and friends.

Funeral Service at Coychurch Crematorium on Thursday, October 1 at 1.15pm. Family flowers only, donations in lieu to Cancer Research UK.

CHURCHILL Gordon Winston

Peacefully on September 19 at Anwen Care Home, Blackmill, Gordon (Wyn) formerly of St Athan, beloved husband of Lillian and the late Alice, much loved father of Sandra, grandfather of Dean, Brett and the extended family.

Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W James & Sons, Fommon, Funeral Thursday, October 1, service and interment 2pm at St Athan Church. Family flowers only may be sent to the Funeral Home, donations in lieu, if desired, to Alzheimers Disease Society c/o J James, 11 Fommon Road, Rhooose, Vale of Glamorgan CF62 3DZ.

In Memorium

In memory of Richard Morgan

September 22nd

Loving husband, dad, grandad and father-in-law. One year today, since you went away.

We often lay awake at night when all the world's asleep, and take a trip down memory lane with tears upon our cheeks.

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Birthdays

Happy 50th Birthdays Brian & Hayley Williams

25 September



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Brian & Hayley Williams

25 September

Hope you have a great day & night! love Alyson, Tony and all your children & grandchildren xxx

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A Big Thank You

Shirley Jury would like to say thank you to all her family, friends and neighbours who so generously donated to her sponsored walk for 'Sian's Walk or Water' (Sian Laycock), with all proceeds going to Velindre Cancer Centre and Leadings Lights Appeal.

Shirley xxx

Sheila Pritchard

Would like to thank the firemen who were first to respond to an accident involving her on September 1 at Romilly Park, Barry

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THE FERGUSON Club held the first Welsh Open Championship for the T20 tractor and GP plough on Sunday, September 13, in association with the Vale of Glamorgan Ploughing & Hedging Society, at Llandow.

The club was very grateful to the society for incorporating this T20 Welsh Dragon class in their ploughing event. The Welsh Dragon trophy was sponsored by Ledley Engineering, based at Llandow Industrial Estate.

Nine ploughmen from across the country entered the T20 class, and it was clear that the standard of ploughing with the Ferguson T20 is improving by the year.

The winner was Andrew Drinkwater (Gloucester) followed by Robert Godfrey (Flintshire). Third was John S Evans (Crymch) and fourth place went to Will John (Cluderwen).

The two judges of the T20 class were Arthur Williams and Gwilym Evans from Trefeglwys, Mid-Wales. Andrew Studley, Chairman of the Vale of Glamorgan Ploughing & Hedging Society, presented both judges with a memento of the day with thanks for their support.

The weather and the soil conditions could not have been better on the day. Overall, there was a wide collection of tractors in all classes of the ploughing match and also two teams of horses with ploughs, showing how the work was done in years gone by.



A great summer for the Llantrisant Bowls Club!

LLANTRISANT Bowls Club has enjoyed a tremendously successful season with many honours going to both ladies and men's sections of the club.

The ladies section won the Glamorgan County afternoon league section easily. They were unbeaten and ended up with a staggering shot difference of +370. They now look forward to returning to section A next season.

The ladies also won their section of the County Evening league for the second year in succession, and the double rink finished top of their midweek league.

They could not have achieved better results and these were obtained by hard work and practice in all weathers by players who were determined to improve. Well done to captain Marilyn Davies and all the players.

The men's teams were not to be outdone and began their season by defeating a strong Ely Valley side to win the Ajax Cup. This was followed by a reasonably successful run in the WBA Cup.

Both men's teams then concentrated

on Cardiff Municipal League business.

In 2014 the Llantrisant mens first team won the division two Championship, but due to the re-organisation of the leagues were not promoted.

This year the team had another successful season and gained promotion to the first division with a shot difference of +160 - congratulations to captain Graham Boucher and all the players.

Llantrisant men's A team finished as champions of CML Division Six with a magnificent shot difference of +199. Promotion to Division Five next year will be all the more sweet as the A team were also champions in 2013 and 2014, but were denied promotion due to league reorganisation.

In the last three years this side played 33 matches and only lost on five occasions. Congratulations go to Geoff Sumner and all his players.

These outstanding results give an indication as to the strength in depth across all sections of the club - the future looks bright for Llantrisant, what a great year!

MH

Barry RFC seconds in action...

BARRY second XV travelled to St Peters a week last Saturday more in hope than expectation after a series of late player withdrawals.

Coaches Rhidian Scott and Martin Tanner, and manager Ken Chow, were forced to dig deep into their squad in order to piece together a side. Matt Russell found himself at outside half, Mitchell Scott made his first senior start, and Dean Griffiths awaited his debut after joining the club just the week before; Chow himself was on the bench.

St Peters were keen to test out their visitors' inexperienced backline, but it was in the set pieces that they held superiority early on. Barry were unable to win any line-out ball, while the scrum was also creaking, offering the hosts plenty of possession.

Despite their advantage, St Peters were unable to score in the first quarter due to some great defensive work from Owain Poole, Jordan Clarke and Elliot Evans. The hosts eventually made their superiority count with a penalty after 20 minutes, and from there the floodgates threatened to open.

Veteran Lee Jones had come on to replace the

injured Scott, but he was unable to prevent the home side scoring out wide for an unconverted try. Barry roared back with some good, direct running, most notably from Poole and Curtis Miller, but curiously turned down several opportunities to kick for goal. Instead, they sensed a try that never came and the territory gained counted for nothing.

Instead the hosts extended their lead with two late scores in the half to put the game out of reach for the visitors.

The management sent on the experienced Rolfe and Griffiths for his debut, and that did shore up the scrum somewhat.

However, the hosts continued to dominate despite the best efforts of the Barry defence, led by scrum-half Rhidian Mepham, and tries came and went.

Barry battled until the end but their inexperienced backline was exposed brutally on a wide pitch against a slick opposite back division. The 51-0 score in the end was perhaps not a fair reflection for the effort the visitors put in but ultimately the late withdrawals of numerous players cost the side dear.

Barry will host Pentrych in the first round of the East District Cup and the management will hope that players will take more responsibility regarding



Action from Barry seconds against St Peters.

their availability.

Team: T Poole; Bailey, D Evans, Clarke, E Evans; Russell, Mepham; Hall, Turnbull, Heard; Case ©, Lloyd Jones; Scott, O Poole, Miller. Replacements: Griffiths, Rolfe, Lee Jones, substitute not used: Chow. Man of the match: Clarke.

OLD PENARTHANS 2ND XV 0

BARRY 2ND XV 54
Barry second XV travel the short distance to Old Penarthians for the East District Cup Preliminary Round tie on a brisk Wednesday night.

Coaches Rhidian Scott and Martin Tanner were forced to shuffle their pack in the last minute with talismanic Dave Provis out injured, while captain Kyle Case was also unavailable. In came Belgian Remy Frenay for his competitive debut, and third XV fly-half Chris Bailey was among the substitutes.

With the hosts forced to start the game without a competitive front row, Barry opted to play a direct running game to

try to gain the momentum from the off. Unfortunately they found the Old Penarthians' defence unrelenting, and that, combined with some poor handling amongst the backs, saw no score in the first quarter of an hour.

Barry finally broke the deadlock when Curtis Miller ran into space, and his offload was beautifully timed for Danny Ryan to dive through in the corner to score. Tomos Lee failed to add the extras.

The once disciplined home defence were temporary disorganised and the incisive Barry attack took full advantage. First, late call-up Ashley Adams profited from some weak tackling, running through to touch down under the posts, before No. 8 Harry Moyle raced beyond the covering defenders to score his first try for Barry; Lee was successful with both conversions.

The hosts did not capitulate but instead more than held their own

for the next quarter, but were undone by two quick tries just before the interval to put the result of the cup tie to bed.

Rhidian Mepham sniped perfectly behind the forward platform from scrum-half, before Adams completed his brace, with Lee adding the extras.

The second interval saw a welcome return to action for Jake Goodfellow from injury, and his ball carrying skills were much in evidence, but Barry once again found the home defence spirited and unyielding for the early parts of the half.

Matt Russell, switched from wing to centre from the weekend, ran a good line to score his first try for the club, before James Hollister took on all comers to crash through under the posts.

A well-worked move behind the forwards saw Lee dance through to set Ryan up for his second try of the game to round off the scoring. The victory was slightly soured, however, by the concussion suffered by Frenay late on, as his ferocious tackling took its toll.

Team: Ryan ©; Clarke, Russell, A Adams, Poole; Lee, Mepham; Ring, Turnbull, Hollister; McTavish, Jones; Miller, Frenay, Moyle. Replacements: Fortt, Goodfellow, T Adams, Bailey. Man of the match: Frenay. KC

IMPRESSIVE START TO SEASON FOR COGAN YOUTH TEAM

COGAN FC youth team have started the season in impressive fashion.

Despite the majority of players being only 16 years old, the team have played three games in 10 days and have progressed in the FAW Welsh Youth Cup and drawn local neighbours Barry United FC in the next round.

TAFF WELL 0 COGAN 0

Cogan kicked off their campaign against a strong and talented Taffs Well youth team packed full of former professional academy and talented young players.

In a game of few chances both sides played a high tempo match full of quality and flair with slick passing from both teams dominating the first half.

In the second half Jake Emmott and Kieran Griffiths went close for the visitors while Dominic Mushemi missed a golden chance towards the end of the game.

The game finished 0-0 but clearly showed what talent is in the area with both sides shining.

COGAN 1, REAL BRYNTIRION 2 SOUTH WALES YOUTH CUP

Cogan bowed out of the South Wales Youth Cup despite dominating the game.

Jake Emmott open the scoring for Cogan in the first half and further chances fell to Gabriel Paines and Ieuan Rideout.

Against the run of play Real Bryntirion equalised. Further chances fell to Cogan with the youngsters hitting the woodwork several times.

In the dying minutes the more physical and older Real Bryntirion side scored the winner, dashing the Cogan young guns' chances of progressing in the cup.

COGAN 1 BARGOED 2

Having several 16-year-olds playing in this fixture, Cogan FC

adapted well to the conditions and poor playing surface.

Bargoed, a strong and physical unit, took an early lead following a long ball into the box, but Cogan showed much team spirit and fought back with Mustapha Yousif equalising.

Cogan took control of the game with Callum Pearce, Nathan Frost, Acki Ahmed and Kyle Campbell shining in defence.

Chances fell to Dominic Mushemi and Jake Emmott but again the more aggressive and physical side came out on top.

Cogan's next game is against Pentrych, before entertaining Barry United FC at home in the FAW Welsh Youth Cup. **PG**

The Barrivale Bridge results

LATEST results from Barrivale Bridge Club for September 15:

1st Celia & Huw Thomas 64.14%; 2nd Peter Millar & Noelle Bond 63.28%; 3rd Jane Brook & Hilary Morgan 53.27%. Celia and Huw Thomas also won on handicap.

New members are always welcome at Barrivale. A partner may be arranged if required.

If you would like to join us ring 01446 418380, 01446 733425 or 01446 735592, or call at the Pioneer Hall, Beryl Road, Barry on Tuesdays at 7pm. **DR**

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Llantwit Major junior rugby club round-up

LLANTWIT MAJOR RFC under-15s were on the road again this past Sunday, this time away to Bargoed.

The game started well for the visitors who, for the first 10 minutes of the game, absorbed the constant onslaught of the pack picking and going. There was some crunching collisions and squeamishly big hits coming in from the Llantwit defence.

In both forwards and backs the black and reds maintained their defensive line and didn't allow anyone through; in particular Mason Richardson, Owen Hodge, Dylan Carroll and Jos Harris were wiping out any player with the ball.

Rhys Roberts co-ordinated the breakdown brilliantly with the rest of his pack. After 10 minutes of collisions Llantwit decided it was their turn to attack.

A big hit from Carroll and a quick steal at the breakdown from Harford and Henson saw a quick platform for the Major to play off.

A nice quick pass from half back Gregor Harris to his outside half Paddy gave the boys the opportunity to whip it out wide and test the Bargoed backs. Some silky play from centres Birnage and Robinson Booth saw an opportunity for Holloway to break the line from fullback, and his improvement in communication saw the pass from Birnage fall into his hands perfectly.

A cheeky fend to the fullback saw Holloway cross the whitewash for the first score; the try went unconverted. Llantwit weren't finished yet, as another good bit of play from the restart by the backs saw Holloway in space again, and a lovely pass this time from winger Owen Evans saw Dylan Holloway slide over for another which he converted.

Padmore and company were doing a fine job in organising and orchestrating attacking plays by both forwards and backs. It was amazing to see the much improved pack were rucking brilliantly, and scrummaging was vastly improved as was the line out.

The next try came straight from backs coach Kerry Williams' box of tricks. A catch deep in his half by Holloway drew in three players; he then offloaded to Birnage who once again drew in the opposition 10 and 12.

He put in a flat pass to Iwan Robinson Booth and Wales' fastest junior sprinter did the rest. It wasn't all to go Llantwit's way though, and a scuffle five minutes before half-time saw a red card shown to a Llantwit player.

In the second half Llantwit were on the back foot for a few brief minutes but once again rode it out and managed to turn the defence into attack quickly.

A rushing Bargoed defence didn't anticipate a chip over the top from fly half Paddy and scrum half Gregor, winger Corley Doster and centre Iwan were all in pursuit. It was Gregor Harris who got to the ball first, just inches in front of the Bargoed fullback; he kicked the ball a few feet in front of him to stop the Bargoed fullback getting to it and just inches from the line he was pulled back and the referee gave a penalty try to Llantwit which Holloway converted between the sticks.

Despite being down to 14 men Llantwit continued to play courageously, making up the one

man loss by pulling together as one. The next try was a piece of individual brilliance from centre Luke Birnage. He caught the ball from a restart and beat several players before outspringing the winger and fullback to score an incredible individual try which Holloway converted.

Changes came from Llantwit with Richardson, Henson and Harford all making way for McIness, Chandler Haines and Sims in the pack, while in the backs Manfield, Harding and Palmer entered the field.

All three of the backs were immediately involved in Llantwit's next try. It started with a quick ruck by the pack; Manfield fished out the ball and passed it to Harding.

Ellis then offloaded it to Liam Palmer, who stepped his way past the fullback and chasing flanker to score on his club debut. Holloway rounded off the scoring to make it 54-0.

Anyone wishing to join the under-15s is more than welcome - we have two places available, for more information please contact Kris Pilcher (coach) on 07557128861.

Llantwit Major under-13s faced Neath under-13s.

It only took two minutes for Llantwit to show they meant business.

From a ruck inside Llantwit's 22 the ball was won by the Llantwit forwards and quickly passed along the back line to the outside centre Ewan Heywood, who sprinted to touch down under the posts.

The conversion was taken and completed by Kieran Daw.

It didn't take long for Llantwit to shine again and from the first scrum the ball was moved through the hands of Stephen Williams, Kieran Daw and Jacob Pereira to the waiting Ewan Heywood, who sidestepped his way to score under the posts to make it 14-0.

From the restart Llantwit kept Neath under a lot of pressure but a lapse in concentration and then conceding a penalty allowed Neath to quickly attack Llantwit's defensive line, scoring a lovely try in the far right corner.

Again from the restart the Llantwit forwards recycled the ball well with good direct running from Joe Parry, Aled Leitch and Sam Deere but the team just couldn't finish off the moves.

Some bad handling and a loose fly kick by Llantwit allowed Neath to regroup and allowed their tall centre to outstride the defence to score his second try of the day. The conversion was completed to make it 12-14.

Ewan quickly popped the ball to right wing Kofi Jones who himself was then tackled five metres short but another quick pass to Ewan allowed him to burst over for his third try.

The second half started off with Neath trying to break out of their half only for their player to have the ball ripped from him by Jacob Pereira and Cole Saunders and to land nicely for Ewan to collect and score his fourth try of the day to make 12-24.

With fresh legs for Llantwit in Rian Thomas on the wing and Joe Davies, Luke Thomas and Cai Ellerton in the forwards, the game started to favor Llantwit.

A break on the halfway line by Neath saw the ball get dislodged by the Llantwit pack and picked up by Llantwit's Connor Booker who sliced his way through the Neath defence to score under the posts.

With the score now looking

more promising Llantwit now tried out different attacking options and one of these nearly resulted with Rian Thomas scoring in the corner, only to be prevented by a good covering tackle.

The last set piece of the day was a line out awarded to Llantwit Major on Neath's 22; the well drilled catch and drive gave the back line a lovely platform to execute an all hands move with the ball passing through the entire back line out to Cole on the wing.

With the Neath defence now stretched it allowed Cole to charge over in the far corner to finish off a text book try; the conversion was completed to make 12-38.

Team: Rian Thomas, Aled Leitch, Cole Saunders, Ewan Heywood, Isaac McBride, Jordan Lee Griffith, Jacob Pereira, Kieran Daw, Kofi Jones, Sam Deere, Sam Jenkins, Sennan Cummings-Jones, Spencer Williams, Stephen Williams, Connor Booker, Will Houghton, Joe Davies, Luke Thomas, Joe Parry and Cai Ellerton.

Llantwit Major under-10s welcomed Llantrisant to the club for a home game.

The weather was perfect for a morning of rugby, and 15 players were available for the match; they were Braydan Griffiths, Rhys Hogarth, Tom Jones, Lewis Ingram, Corey Cox, Flynn Barry, Dylan Brown, Jini Williams, Thomas Lamerton, Dafydd Morgan, Kelyn Joseph, Brandon Harris, Kian Barnett, Owen Richards and Thomas George.

Llantrisant were short of players so it was decided by both coaches to play eight-a-side for the first match.

Players for this were Braydan, Rhys, Tom J, Lewys, Corey, Flynn, Dylan and Jini. The game was very physical with some excellent rugby being played by Llantwit with players being allowed to play their own game of rugby.

This worked really well as there was some excellent communication and fantastic decisions made, and at half-time the score was Llantwit 2, Llantrisant 3, tries scored by Braydan.

At half-time, due to an injury on Llantrisant's team, the numbers dropped to seven-a-side. The boys were playing some great rugby - their offloading of the ball and rucking was brilliant as well as the tackling, and some fantastic tries were scored by both teams.

Llantwit were losing at half-time but they fought back making the final score a draw, Llantwit 5, Llantrisant 5, tries in the second half scored by Braydan (3).

The team for the next 10 minutes was Thomas L, Dafydd, Kelyn, Brandon, Kian, Owen, Thomas G and Tom J.

Llantwit got off to a great start with excellent communication and rucking. Thomas G scored a great try and the score at half-time was Llantwit 1, Llantrisant 3.

In the second half the boys got stuck in with their rucking and their tackling was fantastic. Some great offloading of the ball resulted in Thomas L scoring an excellent try, making the score at full-time Llantwit 2, Llantrisant 4.

Men of the matches for this game were Dylan and Braydan. Well done to all players, you all played really well, keep up the good work.

MD



Llantwit Major AFC under-8s.

AFC under-8s are kept busy!

IN the late summer sun, Llantwit Major AFC under-8s travelled to Barry Comprehensive school for their weekend's fixtures, looking to continue their successes of the previous week.

Due to the logistics with so many sides in this age group it was decided to split the teams between Barry Comprehensive and Dinas Powys, meaning that Llantwit were paired with teams from Cowbridge, Island Marine, FC Barry, Cogan, Rhose, Caddy Imps, Park Lions and Barry Town.

All three of the Llantwit sides gave it their all once again and put in some excellent performances with goalkeepers from each team stopping the scoreboard from ticking over.

The new format with goalkeepers is certainly keeping the scores low and meaning more competitive matches.

After the 60 minutes were up Llantwit's three coaches had the tough job of choosing their respective player of the week and all said that they could have given every player a certificate!

Llantwit Dragons award went to another debutante in Morgan

Evans who showed true grit and determination in all four matches he played.

Llantwit Saints chose Joseph Taylor who has a tremendous workrate and never fails to impress doing exactly what his coach asks him to do.

Llantwit Lions award went to Luke Collinson who is making the defender position his own, thwarting attacks at every opportunity and improving week on week.

Well done to all players who took part, you are all a credit to your coaches.

IG

Llantwit Major bowlers see off another season

WITH the outdoor season fast coming to an close, Llantwit visited Penarth Rectory Road on Wednesday evening.

With evenings closing in we had a 5.30pm start and managed to play 18 ends before darkness fell.

Llantwit found the Penarth side too strong and fell short of the winning post by 13 shots.

The experienced Arthur Hayes, in spite of only scoring on eight ends and the opponents scoring on 10 ends, managed a win of 14-13.

Arthur was well supported by Dave Thomas, Neil Jochem and Graham Merchant, scoring a three on the sixth end and a four on the 14th, while restricting the Penarth rink to three twos and one's on the remaining seven scoring ends.

On Mike Adams rink and Keith Alexander's, Penarth supplied us with a player for each rink. Mike's four gelled well with Roy Vowles, Ken Williams and B. Lindsey, losing four shots on the last three ends to finally lose by just two shots, 13-15.

Keith and his rink of Cen Williams, John O'Brien and B. Thomas, held Penarth for 10 ends and dropped a three on the 11th, but immediately came back with a three the following end, only to drop a five on the 15th

to lose by just four, 13-17.

Kyle Garrison's rink of Andy Vincent, Ian Williamson and John Ball, after being 5-3 up on the sixth end, struggled for the rest of the game to end up eight shots in defeat, 12-20.

With the Penarth four ably skipped by the experienced Ron Maggs and an enjoyable evening was had by all.

On Saturday, our last weekend game, we had a six rink mixed game at Cowbridge.

Richie Gray's four of Ian Williamson, Neil Jochem and Helen Nixon, after being 7-0 down, fought back to only one shot down by the 17th end, scoring only one to the Cowbridge rink's 11 on the last four ends, losing 12-23.

Julie Molloy's rink of Joan Fox, Cen Williams and John Nixon found the Cowbridge green difficult to start with, as after nine ends they were 17-2 down, but they fought back with true Llantwit spirit scoring 11 shots to Cowbridge's seven to end 13-24.

Val Ball skipped her rink of Paul Brown, Peggy Pike and John Ball. Although scoring on 11 of the 21 ends, they managed a deficit of nine shots, 15-24. The defeat was nothing to do with the two ladies on the rink - if Paul and John had played as well as Peggy

and Val, the rink would have given Cowbridge's captain

Norman Wilkinson perhaps a little more to think about.

Arthur Hayes skipped for the second time in a week with Marilyn Gomaa, Ambrose Horgan and Ken Williams. After being 7-0 down after five ends, they fought back scoring eight shots to Cowbridge's three on just five ends. Their valiant effort made their final score 18-21.

Things improved with our third lady skip's rink, Etta Gray, putting in a fine performance with the ever improving Andy Vincent, Llantwit's ladies captain Margaret Horgan, and John Crane, one of the four first team players available.

After being 3-2 down after five ends, they never looked back, scoring two 4's and a 3 while restricting Cowbridge to all 1's, except a two on the 18th end. Their final score was 21-9.

The performance of the day went to Eric

Sparks and his rink of Edna Hardie and Roy Vowles, both enjoying the Cowbridge's faster surface, with Glyn Fox enjoying his unaccustomed role as a third.

They turned in a magnificent show scoring a 6, a 4 and three 3's, restricting Cowbridge to seven 1's and a 2 on the 14th end to run out winners by 28-9.

Etta and Eric's rinks fine performances meant that Llantwit only went down by four shots. With the sun shining all afternoon and the usual hospitality from our hosts, a very enjoyable afternoon was had by all, so much so that Ian Williamson, our fixtures secretary, has arranged a return for both Penarth and Cowbridge next season.

A big thank you to Llantwit club members for their support throughout the season and look forward to the same commitment next season.

WJB

Footballers in national six-a-side action

A clutch of local footballers are pulling on the Red Dragon of Wales as they have been selected to represent their country at the European six-a-side championships.

A total of eight Bridgend men - keeper Rhys Wilson, Defender's Kieran Miller and Kristian Smith, midfielders Jonathon Thomas, Dean Maynard and Cullen Kinsella, as well as forwards Anthony Rawlings and Arran Jeffries - and a pair

of Cardiff-based players - defender David Biggs and attacker Laurent Mondo - have headed off to Croatia as part of the squad who are bidding for glory at the 32 team championships to be held in the coastal city of Vrsar.

The players came through trials and training and his had to compete with hundreds of others from around the country for the coveted slot.

They kicked off their campaign with a game against Germany on Tuesday.

Bowls AGM

WITH the season drawing to a close it is AGM time again for the Llantwit Major lady bowlers.

The AGM is on Tuesday, September 29 at 2.30pm in the clubhouse; please try and attend or send your apologies to the secretary.

CW

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MG

Romilly bowlers in finals day action

BARRY Romilly Bowling Club held their finals day over the weekend with ladies and men's competitions played out in good conditions despite the threat of adverse weather conditions.

On Saturday morning the games included the ladies novices, the men's Mottram Cup and both ladies and men's rinks. The Mottram Cup was fought between Jeff Coles and Dave Noble; unfortunately Noble was up against an inspired Coles who took the first end and went on to win comfortably.

The ladies novice event was a game between two keen bowlers, Lynne Lafford and Gaynor Taylor, with the game being close throughout. Taylor took the lead early on but Lafford pulled back the deficit to lead 9-7 at the 10th end but Taylor fought back and went ahead 14-12 by the 15th.

At the 20th end the game was all square at 16-16 and nerves were evident as Lafford took the lead on the 21st end, scoring a two to lead 18-16 but back came Taylor who took control, taking the next four ends scoring a 1, 2, 1 and 1 to win an exciting game 21-18.

Both rinks games turned out to be closely fought with the ladies match being played over an agreed 10 ends and was won by the rink of Faye Woolcock, Anne Johnson, Marilyn Werner and Norma Goodrich, beating the rink of Ann Haines, Angela Hort, Judy Davies and Myra Newman by a single shot on the last end, 8-7.

The men's rinks final, played over 21 ends, was won by the rink of Colin Davies, Terry Bloomfield, Brian Cheal and Mike Doyle who beat the rink of Des Bannister, Alf Woolcock, Rhys Phillips and Roger Jones 23-21.

The two wood competitions were played over 21 ends, although this number wasn't required as Beryl Holmes beat Marilyn Werner 17-4 and

Jeff Wright beat Mel Newman 16-9. On Saturday afternoon both handicap games were played along with the men's Tim Evans Trophy. The men's handicap was played off scratch between Jeff Wright and Mel Newman with Wright coming out on top, while the ladies handicap was between Myra Newman and Rita Jones with Myra winning comfortably.

The Tim Evans was played between Jeff Coles and Mike Gronow, with Coles, who has qualified for four finals altogether, winning comfortably.

Sunday morning saw both four wood pairs being played, the ladies between Gaynor Taylor/Myra Newman and Angela Hort/Jan Noble with Taylor and Newman winning comfortably, 29-12. The men's final was played between father and son with Rhys Phillips, partnered by Gwyn Rees, getting the better of his father Fred Phillips and Jeff Coles 15-29.

The afternoon session was due to contain both championship finals and the men's triples; unfortunately the men's game between Phil Gershenson and Jeff Wright had to be postponed due to illness. The men's triples went ahead between Jeff Coles, Des Bannister and Paul Clarke, who outplayed the triple of Colin Davies, Mike Gronow and Rhys Phillips.

The ladies championship being played between Beryl Holmes and Myra Newman was eagerly awaited by the spectators and they weren't let down as the bowling was of high quality.

Holmes took the early advantage and held the lead 16-5, but everyone is aware of Newman's fighting qualities and she fought her way back into the game, 18-13, and then 20-15, but Holmes ran out the winner, 21-15, in an exciting game.

The Barry Romilly presentation night is now October 3, from 7.30pm, at BP Market Street.

WRU coaches bring skills to college



WITH the Rugby World Cup having kicked off, the next generation of Welsh rugby stars have been given some expert coaching and advice at Cardiff and Vale College.

Former Wales internationals and current WRU skills coaches Chris Horsman and Geraint Lewis held a special session for CAVC's Rugby Academy team. The coaches visited the team at CCFC/CAVC's House of Sport for the training

session just days before Wales' first World Cup match against Uruguay.

CAVC's Rugby Academy provides a platform for dedicated young students who have an interest in performance and elite level rugby.

It places the emphasis on balancing sporting and educational performance and has A Licence facilities such as specialist strength and conditioning gym and a team of experts including director Martyn Fowler, who has more than 15 years of top level coaching under his belt.

Previous Rugby Academy captain Joel Ringer has since gone on to play for giants Toulon.

Chris and Geraint led the team through a series of passing and tackling exercises, aimed at raising their game. The training was identical to sessions held for the under-18s and under-21s teams.

CAVC Rugby Academy captain, 17-year-old Public Services student from Dinas Powys, Dan Watts, said: "It's been really good to have these coaches here - you're always going to learn more when

training, especially with WRU skills coaches. It's good for them to come here and teach us what they teach the senior team and regional Welsh

teams. "I've definitely learned a lot and hopefully that will show when we get out there and play."

Yet another win for Flint

BRIDGEND trainer John Flint, who has been in good form of late, saw his six-year-old bay mare Ayla's Emperor land the closing Truvape Handicap over one mile and two furlongs at Chepstow last week.

However, it was a close thing as Ayla's Emperor, partnered by Daniel Muscatt, and who was made the 11-4 favourite won by a neck from Invincible Wish.

Bargoed's Bernard Llewellyn also had plenty to smile about as his Borak, ridden by Cathy Gannon, was a 4-1

winner of the previous race.

HAVE HORSES WILL TRAVEL
Aberthin's Tim Vaughan sent his seven-year-old bay gelding Makethedifference all the way to Kelso last Wednesday to contest the Bruce Farm Supporting World Welfare Hurdle which was the principal race of the evening at run at 6.40pm.

Well-ridden by Michael Byrne, the well-backed 6-4 favourite scored by two-and-a-quarter lengths from Captain Brown. **BRIAN LEE**

Football fun starts!

ACCREDITED FAW Fun Football organisation PG10 Coaching are delighted to announce the popular under-six Football Fun Football provision which will restart on Sunday, October 11.

The provision is supported by the FAW Trust and Premier League giants Everton FC.

The fun football provision will be run under FAW mini football guidelines and be for children (boys and girls) in Year 1 and reception (4, 5 and 6 years old) held at St Cyres School 3G pitch in Penarth every other Sunday, 9.30am-11am.

If you wish to enter teams or would like your child to take part please contact petegriff10@hotmail.co.uk to enrol your team or child.



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Finals day at St Athan Golf Club



Fairwood Park finalists: Dutch, Gerald, Trev and Lee.



Junior finalists with their caddies, left to right: Jamie, Josh, Gareth and Russ.



Dan Archer finalists Andy Pentith and Stu Thomas.

THE sign writers are due to visit St Athan Golf Club to update the coveted competition boards and append the names of the golfers that were victorious in their matches played on finals day and throughout the season.

Stu Thomas had qualified to compete in two finals, therefore his match against Andy Pentith in the Dan Archer Trophy was played the week prior to September 19, and resulted in Andy taking the title on the 18th green.

Stu next came up against Phil Briggs in the 36 hole match-play battle for the Rabbit's title and he was quietly confident; seven up at one point and five up at the halfway stage. Phil, however, had no intention of going down without a fight - he dug deep and completely turned the game around, producing a stunning 4 & 3 victory.

The only pairings match played on the day is the Fairwood Park, the competitors having progressed throughout the knock-out stages.

The single figure handicappers dominated this competition which saw Gerald Thomas and Dutch Holland come head-to-head with Lee Bligh and Trev Graham.

What was expected to be a tight match proved anything but, Gerald and Dutch five up at the turn and finishing the game off 6 & 5.

St Athan's veteran section has various competitions throughout the season but their most prestigious, the Alex Beattie Trophy, is always well supported with entrants. Making their way to the final this year were Dave Evans and Jim Hawkins; unfortunately Dave couldn't climb back from being two down at the turn and suffered a 3 & 2 defeat.

It was a case of déjà vu for Carol Morgan and Janet Davies, once again playing each other for the Millennium Plate. The game was nip and tuck throughout; Janet was one up on the 18th tee and by the time the green was reached Carol needed the putt to force the game down the 19th.

Alas for Carol, but happily for Janet, the ball sailed past the hole resulting in Janet being a worthy winner and



reversing 2013's outcome.

Kev Bacon was competing against Frank Bradshaw in the club plate and with the score standing with Frank nine up with eight to play after 28 holes, Kev was resigned to the fact that the game was all but over. He kept on, keeping the game alive for another three holes before graciously conceding 6 & 5.

The ladies and junior championship titles are the most coveted within each section and always results in friends competing against each other; this year was no exception as Josh Morgan faced Gareth Brookes and last year's ladies champion, Michelle Bligh, was being challenged by Erin Allison.

The juniors kept it a family affair, Josh having brother Jamie on his bag and Russ caddy for his son Gareth. Some excellent golf shots were played and both boys showed the true meaning of good sportsmanship; unfortunately there could only be one winner and it was Josh who was crowned junior champion with his 3 & 2 win.

Michelle Bligh was hoping to retain her ladies champion title but with Erin Allison two up at the turn it was always going to be a struggle to claw back the deficit. Erin held her nerve and eventually crept further ahead, finishing the game 4 & 3 and taking the 2015 title.

Chris Bacon was competing in his first final for the award every player aspires to; the club championship trophy. He stormed ahead to go three up after five holes against a former club champion, Craig Sherman.

However he was fully aware of Craig's golfing ability so wasn't too disheartened when he was one down after 18. Craig, revitalised after half-time refreshments, stepped up his game and

Chris was dismayed to see himself falling further behind and the title slipping away.

His dream was over for this year after 32 holes - Craig had sealed the win 5 & 4 and can now proudly announce that he is St Athan's golf club champion 2015.

The directors, committee and management of the club thank all of the day's supporters, referees and caddies and a special mention goes to the greenkeepers for the exceptional presentation of the course.

The biggest applause must go to the competitors in each match; especially the losers, without them there would be no winners!

Club captain Taff Edwards and the members of St Athan Golf Club warmly welcome new playing members of all ages and categories; for further information, visit the club website, www.rafstathangc.co.uk, or alternatively call the club manager on 01446 751043.

ST ATHAN GOLF CLUB LADIES ARE THE AUSTRALIAN SPOON CHAMPIONS

Steph Bonnar and Ruth O'Carroll made club history when they brought home to St Athan Golf Club the Australian Spoons from Borth Y Ynyslas.

The Australian Spoons is a competition held annually throughout Britain with each home country holding a set of beautifully boxed Spoons donated in the mid 1960s by the Australian Ladies Golf Union.

Initially a foursome stableford competition is held at club level, the winners of this progressing through to the regional finals. A total of 88 clubs competed this year in the regionals - 64 from the south Wales region

played at Coed-Y-Mwstwr and 24 from the north played at Bull Bay in Anglesey. From here the six best pairings from each competition would have to make the journey to Cardigan Bay to compete in the All Wales final.

Representing St Athan Golf Club, Steph and Ruth were delighted with their 37 points carded at Coed-Y-Mwstwr, placing them in fourth position behind The Grove, Coed-Y-Mwstwr and Pennard and it ensured that they would be travelling north on Saturday, September 19.

As the tee off times were relatively early Steph and Ruth decided to travel the day prior to the competition; however they declined to utilise the offer of a courtesy practice round at Borth Y Ynyslas and instead settled for a quiet night.

This decision obviously worked favourably with both players; waking refreshed and to glorious sunshine, they tackled Borth's links course with finesse and precision.

The ladies produced an outstanding round of golf and returned into the clubhouse with a magnificent 40 points on their scorecard and hopeful that they would be in the running.

With all cards checked and verified, Steph and Ruth were ecstatic to discover that second place was awarded to Maesdu Golf Club who carded 34 points. It was then they realised they'd done it and they were bringing the Spoons to St Athan!

The club captain, along with all of St Athan Golf Club's members, are extremely proud of Steph and Ruth's achievement, however ladies captain Carolyn McKenzie also deserves credit for the continuous encouragement she gives to each of the ladies within her section.

CM



Champions Craig and Erin.



Club Champion towers over the ladies winners.



Championship finalists Chris Bacon and Craig Sherman.



Alex Beattie finalists, Dave Evans and Jim Hawkins.



Ladies Championship finalists, Michelle and Erin.



Millennium Plate finalists Carol Morgan and Janet Davies.



Plate finalists Frank Bradshaw and Kev Bacon.



Rabbits finalists Phil Briggs and Stu Thomas.



Josh Morgan and Gareth Brookes.



WALES' RUGBY WORLD CUP STARTS TO HOT UP

The Dragon set to unseat St George!



Bonus point win sends team off in good heart



LEFT : The scrum stays steady as Wales' scrum-half Gareth Davies gets the ball away.

RIGHT: Warren Gatland cuts a pensive figure as the casualty toll mounts.

BELOW: It's that man again... Justin Tipuric capped yet another fine display with a try.



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TWICKENHAM'S THE NEXT STOP

...and it's far from mission impossible for Gatland's braves

EVEN before a ball was kicked in anger in their must-win opening match of the Rugby World Cup against Uruguay at the Millennium Stadium on Sunday, Welsh players had been given an early marker for the challenge ahead – with pool A rivals England's 35-11 win over Fiji at Twickenham.

That bonus point result added to the pressure on a much-changed Wales side to seize a priceless opportunity to better this result against the weakest team in the 'group of death' – and make a statement of their own before the big clash at Twickenham on Saturday evening.

They knew there could be no excuse for failure – after all, as the fifth-ranked team in the world, they were in the unfamiliar position of being seen as Goliath versus David (Uruguay are ranked 19th in the world).

Apart from obvious home advantage, there was also a marked physical disparity between the sides, Wales having the heaviest pack of the 20 teams in the tournament (averaging around 227lbs), with the south American amateurs the lightest (around 417lbs).

There had been calls in some media quarters for head coach Warren Gatland to follow England's example and field his strongest team

from the outset, but the Kiwi had opted for a balanced line-up that saw many first choice players held back for the sterner test ahead, but nevertheless was underpinned by skipper Sam Warburton in tandem with Justin Tipuric, and second row giant Luke Charteris.

It also saw the return from injury of tight-head prop Samson Lee and fullback Liam Williams, on which so much hope depends for Wales in this global tournament.

Despite the wide gap between the two sides in world terms, the Welsh camp had insisted that they were taking the South American amateurs "very seriously".

Warburton revealed beforehand that they had been closely studying videos of Los Teros in action: "I cannot speak highly enough of our analysts. I can go on my laptop and see clips of all of their squad players, their set piece, and games they have played in the past," he said.

"It means we can have a good look at them. We can look at the lineup and plan the best options going forward."

"It's been a month since Uruguay played a bit. However, we expect them to be more organised than what we have seen."

And that indeed proved to be the case, for despite that extensive Welsh homework on the laptop, the visitors, far from being overawed by the occasion, belied their 'minnows' status with a spirited and committed display that seemed to unsettle their higher ranked opponents from the

BACK PAGE COMMENT

by Don John

outset. In fact, the game was barely one minute old when Wales committed the first of many transgressions. Outside half Felipe Berchesi gave Uruguay a three-point lead with the resultant penalty and then almost immediately failed with an audacious penalty attempt from all of 45 yards, as the discomfited Wales defence offended again.

He made amends with a third penalty awarded for a high tackle that amazingly put his team six points ahead inside 10 minutes - to a stunned silence from the home crowd and the delight of the small pockets of Uruguay supporters scattered around the stadium.

With the Welsh eight worryingly making heavy weather of containing their lively, lightweight opponents upfront, and the backline constantly misfiring, relief came in the shape of the returning Samson Lee, who completed a driving maul with a try converted by outside half Rhys Priestland, to edge Wales into a one-point lead.

When this was followed minutes later by the first of three tries by Blues centre Cory Allen, converted by Priestland, the crowd expected

that this would finally settle Wales down, but in fact it was the south Americans who scored next when Barchesi landed his third penalty to make the score 14-9.

Two tries by the Barry man to complete his hat trick, coolly converted by Priestland, doubled the Welsh tally to 28 points, but the rising Welsh error count – lost possession, turn-overs and dropped passes that torpedoed promising attacks and cost the side dearly – continued to be a concern as a mixed first half drew to a close.

Ten minutes after the change-over Hallam Amos' converted touchdown took the score to 35-9, but even then the bustling Uruguayans were not subdued and launched an attack of their own, only to be penalised and see Priestland relieve the danger with a 30-yard clearance to touch.

Then came another blow for Wales as man-of-the-match Cory Allen injured a hamstring in a tackle and it was later learned that his World Cup adventure is over, adding to the lengthening casualty list in this injury-hit campaign.

He was replaced by former Cowbridge student Lloyd Williams (son of Brynmor) and it was the signal for others to appear off the bench.

Scrum half Gareth Davies scored the first of two tries as more gilt edged chances went begging, until Justin Tipuric forced his way over for a try converted by Priestland, to

make the score 47-9.

In the dying minute, Priestland converted Gareth Davies' second touchdown for a commanding final bonus point score of 54-9.

The question though on everyone's lips was – will even this be enough, with both leading pool rivals England and Australia yet to face the south American minnows, particularly with Wales leaving the field with yet more walking wounded.

Before then, of course, there is the no small matter of a full-blown Twickenham showdown with the 'old enemy' – kicking off at the ridiculous time for travelling Welsh supporters of 8pm on Saturday.

It could well prove to be a crucial decider in the eventual outcome of pool A – and one that both sides know they simply cannot afford to lose.

It all makes for another epic crunch clash between these two arch rivals and the home team appear to hold all the aces.

But there is something in the 'all for one, one for all' spirit in this depleted Welsh camp that could yet see them confound the sceptics.

Gatland & Co have prevailed there before so the Twickenham factor should hold few fears for them.

Despite their unprecedented injury misfortunes, they will know it's definitely not mission impossible!

